FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 NOVEMBER 1986

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli helicopters fired missiles at a "terrorist" target near Sidon 17 November, hitting a headquarters building belonging to the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, Jerusalem television reported. Beirut radio said five people were injured in the attack on the 'Ayn al-Hulwah area. Palestinian sources cited by Voice of National Resistance radio stated that the latest Israeli raids near Sidon follow a 15 November Israeli-Palestinian naval clash involving an Israeli warship and two rubber dinghies. The Israelis detained one of the dinghies but sustained some casualties in the fighting, the sources said.

Amal-Palestinian Fighting — An Amal Movement statement broadcast by Beirut radio warned Palestinians in the mountains overlooking Beirut that Amal will retaliate for any more artillery attacks on the southern suburb. Palestinian shelling on 17 November produced "colossal" civilian casualties, Amal asserted. Beirut radio reported that 3 people were killed and over 25 were wounded in the shelling, stating earlier that overall casualties in the latest Burj al-Barajinah "camps war" amounted to 57 dead and 579 wounded.

In Damascus, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received Amal leader Nabih Birri for talks on the Lebanese situation, according to Damascus radio. Birri and other Lebanese nationalist and leftist leaders also met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Radio Monte Carlo reported, noting the Lebanese Communist Party leader's statement afterward that the Lebanese "national forces" have agreed to establish a new relationship and "close ranks." Damascus radio had earlier broadcast Birri's 16 November speech at the Syrian trade union conference in which the Amal leader called for a new Lebanese-Palestinian agreement giving Palestinians residing and working in Lebanon "the same rights and duties given to the Lebanese in all spheres except Lebanese nationality."

French Hostage — An anonymous spokesman for the Revolutionary Justice Organization told the Beirut paper *Al-Safir* that his group has decided to free French hostage Marcel Carton for humanitarian reasons, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Iran-France

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in Tehran and French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond in Paris signed a $330 million agreement in partial settlement of the financial dispute between the two countries, Paris radio reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

A Liberian oil tanker was damaged in an attack by an Iranian gunboat off the UAE coast the night of 17 November, according to maritime sources in Manama cited by KUNA. A fire aboard the vessel was extinguished with assistance from rescue boats.

An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio stated that the two Iranian air raids on Iraqi targets hit residential areas, killing 4 civilians and wounding 40.

In diplomatic developments, KUNA reported that the Iraqi foreign minister arrived on a "surprise" visit to Kuwait to give the Kuwaiti amir a message on the war from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. Saudi King Fahd discussed the Gulf problem during talks with the visiting Italian defense minister, Rome radio noted, disclosing that Fahd expressed the view that an "urgent" change in U.S. policy is needed. As for reported Iranian differences concerning contacts with the United States, "knowledgeable Western sources" cited by Jerusalem television said the "extremist faction" has failed to stifle Iranian-U.S. contacts because a change in President 'Ali Khamene'i's position has strengthened the position of Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's faction.

Israel

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres dismissed President al-Asad's call for an internationally agreed definition of terrorism, telling Jerusalem radio that the Syrian leader wants "great and important people around the world" to confirm that "terrorism for the sake of liberation" is permissible. Peres said that Al-Asad's 16 November speech was entirely based on "make-believe," adding that Syrian expressions of indignation are a cover for isolation and weakness.

Libya

Fighting in Chad — A FANT communique broadcast on Ndjamena radio congratulated Goukouni's FAP forces on downing a Libyan bomber 16 November and dealing a "crushing defeat" to the "invaders" during a counteroffensive in northern Chad.

Italian Alert — Following the approach of three Libyan patrol boats "a few days ago," vigilance at military and radar installations on Italy's Pantelleria Island was increased, Rome radio disclosed.

FBIS

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PLO Representative on Cairo Declaration, Lebanon

JN171535 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 15 Nov 86 p 19

[Interview with Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, PLO representative in Cairo, by *Al-Yawm* correspondent 'Abd al-Mun'im Fawzi in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts][Fawzi] What is the PLO's stand on the Cairo declaration in light of the recent changes in the international arena?

['Abd al-Rahim] We reiterate the PLO's adherence to the Cairo declaration in which the PLO refused to embark on any operations outside the occupied territory. This is demonstrated by the escalation of our operations inside the occupied territory.

The PLO will not abandon the Cairo declaration. The Israeli enemy has tried many times to assassinate our cadres or to harm our gains, our leaders, and our friends, but we will not be dragged into the enemy's battle. We still abide by the Cairo declaration. This commitment is not only to confront the media campaign launched against us but a firm strategy as stated in the resolutions of the PNC and the Arab summit resolutions as well as in our practices and statements affirming that we are against terrorism. [passage omitted]

[Fawzi] Israel is making desperate efforts to brand the Arabs with the stigma of terrorism. What is your opinion?

['Abd al-Rahim] Terrorist Ari'el Sharon has recently announced a secret plan to assassinate Palestinian leaders and to pursue them everywhere. This is the firm policy of the Israeli Government. The Israeli enemy considers this policy a way to combat terrorism, but, in fact, this is the real terrorism. We have taken every security measure to foil the Israeli plan to pursue the PLO and the Paelstinian resistance leaders.

We have uncovered many Israeli attempts before they took place. All our cadres are requested to be alert, particularly since the Israeli terrorists were able to reach our brother, the martyr Mundhir Abu Ghazalah. The Israeli Mosad is launching a large-scale terrorist war against us in all arenas. The Israelis are launching this terrorist war against us as a result of the escalation of our operations inside the occupied territory. They wanted to move the area of our operations outside the occupied territory. However, we insist on keeping our area of operations inside the occupied territory. [passage omitted]

[Fawzi] The Palestinian existence in Lebanon is being exposed to fierce shelling and attack and even to liquidation. What are your comments on what is taking place in Lebanon.

['Abd al-Rahim] The Palestinians in Lebanon are facing a plot aimed at uprooting their existence there. The attempt is not only to destroy the Palestinian armed struggle but to uproot the entire Palestinian existence there and to displace the Palestinians. We believe that this is a plan that was agreed upon by some Arab parties and Israel. As long as there are Palestinians in Lebanon's camps and in the south there will always be fighters. We have not returned Palestinian fighters to Lebanon, but only weapons to the camps. Our people do exist in the camps and they are capable of bearing arms and defending themselves. [passage omitted]

Bendjedid Receives Ibrahimi Prior to Syria Visit

LD172058 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] President Chedli Bendjedid received Dr Taleb Ibrahimi prior to his departure for Damascus. The foreign affairs minister is going to Syria, in the context of a mandate entrused to Algeria as chairman of the 86th session of the Arab League Ministerial Council, in order to establish contacts on the holding of an Arab summit. He will convey a message from the head of state to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Dr Taleb Ibrahimi, who arrived in Tunis this evening en route to Syria, is accompanied on his mission by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

Tanker Reportedly Attacked by Iranian Gunboat

LD180911 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Manama, 18 Nov (KUNA) — Maritime sources said here today that a Liberian oil tanker was subjected to an attack by an Iranian gunboat, opposite the coast of Al-Shariqah in the UAE, today at 2230 GMT [as received]. The sources told KUNA that the oil tanker *Crown Hob*, with 36,850 tons displacement weight, was exposed in the early hours of this morning to an Iranian gunboat attack, causing fire on the tanker and some damage.

The sources stressed that the oil tanker was not carrying oil when it was attacked, and that the fire was extinguished at dawn today,with the help of three small rescue boats. The oil tanker is reported to be on its way now to Dubai to repair the damages.

KUWAIT

Editorial Criticizes Reagan's Foreign Policy

JN171111 Kuwait TIMES in English 15 Nov 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Reagan Unveiled"]

[Text] The most popular president in the history of the United States, Ronald Reagan, is now having to defend himself against charges which simply mean that he had been hiding the truth about his under-the-cover bargaining with certain elements in Iran. After weeks of prevarication and cringing evasion, he has admitted in a broadcast to his people that he had been in secret contact with Tehran. His secret dealing with the regime there included supply of military equipment and also a promise to release around 500 million dollars held by the Federal Bank. These shady transactions put on a particularly murky aspect when it is noted that by engaging in this kind of commerce, Reagan had compromised trust of some of his closest cabinet colleagues as well as his intimate NATO allies. But the matter does not end here. From the point of view of the ordinary law of the United States, the president might be shown to be in straight violation of it. At least one American citizen is serving a five-year term in jail after conviction for shipping arms to Iran which is a criminal offence. Now the president admits he had been doing exactly the same. Right now, at least three persons are under trial for the same alleged offence, that is supplying arms to Iran in undercover deals.

What the president's secret operators have been doing, under the direct orders and guidance of the president, is profoundly improper and unworthy because it is so utterly incompatible with honesty, honour and dignity of a normal individual and also of a self-respecting nation. Viewed in the context of President Ronald Reagan's tirelessly proclaimed pretentions to high morality, these acts would look doubly deplorable. The saint has exposed himself. He has been virtually begging and baiting Tehran in the hope of favours at some future date. All this has occasioned surprise and some furrowed foreheads among the Reagan devotees. The powerful president of the mighty United States, who used to lecture and reprimand the whole world for being soft on 'terror', has confessed to actually bowing and bending, and flattering a party he scorned in public. If this is not a case of manifest duplicity, we should like to know what would really be.

As far as we are concerned, let us say that we are not surprised. We have never been impressed by the Reaganite brand of political morality. This administration has been notable for use of might with singular freedom from scruples of any kind. It would jump in the fray with force at will and also steal out of it when the going should get tough. Example: Lebanon. It would invade small neighbours and make war of conquest. Example: Grenada. It would engage in war by proxy, in defiance of the unambiguous verdict of the International Court of Justice. Example: Nicaragua. It would threaten and bully even its own close allies. Example: Punitive action against business parties contributing to Soviet gas pipelines in West Europe. It would cook evidence to create excuse for military action against smaller nations refusing to be browbeaten. Example: Libya. It would launch misinformation campaigns to malign any entity it does not like. Example: again Libya. It would finance and foment sedition and treason. Example: Angola, Mozambique, Nicaragua. It would drop friends and leave them to fend for themselves. Example: Egypt. Or, Marcos, for that matter. Unprincipled bargaining and petty wheeling-dealing has been converted into an established practice by the present administration in Washington. The Daniloff swap is only one of a string of examples in this genre of diplomatic broker-age. With such a record of perfectly open and known deeds, only Ronald Reagan can still go on claiming sainthood.

Had the Arabs not become by now almost inured to Reagan administration's hardened anti-Arab animus, there would have been a real and true storm of protest over the supply of arms (sensitive spare-parts) to Iran right in the middle of a war it obstinately refuses to stop fighting. This, then, is President Reagan's much vaunted posture of 'neutrality'. He only adds insult to injury by arguing that the supplies could be shipped as one plane-load. That quantity of spares could, for all one knows, render a whole halted army lethally operational in a matter of days. Reagan now stands arrayed against the Arab side in a war entering the seventh year, breaking the record of the World War Two. How does he expect the Arabs to take this latest of his unkind cuts?

Paper Says U.S. Arms Sales to Iran Prolong War

JN171644 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 16 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Arms and Instruments of Peace!"]

[Text] "The end justifies the means" — that accursed Machiavellian principle, which is responsible for most of the world's disasters, is still etched in the mind of the world's policy makers.

If it was self-interest and not principles that prompted Washington to allow the sale of arms to Iran; from our viewpoint,the issue is a threat to both our interests and principles.

The United States is a superpower, and it is the responsibility of its leaders to pursue policies that serve U.S. interests and their right to determine the priority of these interests. Washington may have concluded, rightly or wrongly, that the supply of some military hardware could loosen the Iranian complex and open a line of dialogue that could lead to Tehran moderating its stand on the issues of war and peace in the region. But in our view, such military supplies will only prolong the war and further exhaust the human and material resources of the two warring neighbors.

Whatever the quantity of the military hardware sent to Iran, such supplies constitute moral support for the Iranian stand. Washington has repeatedly declared it wants an end to the war raging in the Gulf and knows it is Iran that is rejecting peace, while Iraq wants peace. Therefore, it would be logical for Baghdad to view the Reagan administration's action as encouragement to the aggressor to persist in his aggression, and as an endorsement of the aggressor's rejection of peace.

The Zionist participation in encouraging, planning, and executing the transportation of arms reveals the real objective of the deal: the convergence of the desires of the two sides to keep Iraqi preoccupied with the war with Iran, so Iraq will not be able to throw its military and political weight behind the Arab-Israeli confrontation. This upsets the present balance that made it possible to put forward peace plans, and is no different than handing Zionist ambitions a check for Arab capitulation.

Any arms to Iran can only mean more death and destruction and greater instability.

What naive person believes that arms encourage peace and moderation?

Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi Visits PRC

For PRC media and KUNA coverage of the visit of Finance Minister Jasim Muhammad al-Kharafi to the People's Republic of China, see the Middle East and Africa section of the 18 November China *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

PDRY

PLO's 'Arafat Expresses Gratitude; Departs

EA171955 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestine revolutionary forces, left Aden this afternoon after a 3-day visit to the PDRY. During the visit, he held talks with party and state leaders on the strengthening of relations between the struggling Yemeni and Palestine revolutions.

He was seen off at the airport by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, members of the Political Bureau and Central Committee, and ministers and members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps in Aden.

Shortly before his departure, Brother Yasir 'Arafat made a statement to ANA in which he expressed his thanks to the Yemeni leadership for the efforts they have made, and continue to make, for the unity of the Palestinian ranks since the beginning of negotiations which led to the Algiers declaration, for their revolutionary stands on the side of the Palestine revolution, and their efforts to strengthen it, considering it as their own Yemeni problem. He also expressed his pride [words indistinct].

He also praised the consistent revolutionary stand of the Yemeni leadership toward the Palestinian issue and all other Arab issues. [passage omitted]

Soviet Friendship Delegation Visits Governorate

EA150015 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] A Soviet-Yemeni friendship delegation, led by Comrade (Nuriman), candidate member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party in the Kazakhstan SSR, is currently visiting Hadramawt Governorate to participate in the Soviet-Yemeni friendship week celebrations being held in the governorate.

The delegation arrived in Saywun town yesterday from Al-Mukalla. It was received by the comrade secretary of the party organization in the province and a number of officials.

In the evening, a speech and artistic gathering was held to celebrate the friendship week in the revolution palace theater during which a speech on behalf of the Soviet-Yemeni Friendship Society was made by brother Salih ibn Salih, the second secretary of the party Organization Committee in the province, and a speech on behalf of the Soviet friendship delegation was made by Comrade (Nuriman). It expressed the depth of the friendship and military relations binding the friendly Yemeni and Soviet peoples.

As part of the visit, the Soviet delegation this morning met members of the Secretariat of the YSP organization in the province and visited the national museum in Sayuh and the historical towns of Shibam and Tarim.

The friendship delegation, led by Comrade (Nuriman), expressed great admiration and delight at the achievements and historical relics it saw in Hadramawt Governorate. He said: The hospitable reception I received tangibly confirms the depth of friendship that binds the two friendly peoples of Democratic Yemen and the Soviet Union.

The delegation visited Al-Mukalla town and participated in the activities there.

Polish Trade Delegation Arrives in Aden

EA160025 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] A delegation of Poland's Ministry of Foreign Trade led by Comrade (Heslav Temat), deputy foreign trade minister, arrived in Aden today for a visit scheduled to last several days. During their visit, they will meet party and government officials to discuss economic and trade relations between the PDRY and the Polish People's Republic and ways of consolidating and developing them. Brother 'Abdallah al-Jifri, the deputy minister of industry, trade and supply, met the delegation at the airport.

Chairman Addresses People's Control Committee

EA171136 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] The sixth qualifying session for people's controllers opened this morning at the Institute of Administrative Science in Khaar Maksar. Brothers Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council, and Mahdi 'Abdallah Sa'id, member of the Central Committee and chairman of the Higher Committee for People's Control, attended the opening.

During the opening ceremony, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas delivered a speech, which covered many topics and problems facing the committee in its work to implement the People's Control Law. He referred to the role played by the People's Control in exposing and spotlighting many errors and shortcomings. Brother Al-'Attas asked members of People's Control to work harder and display awareness and bravery in fulfilling their national duty. He advised them to expose and fight all those who try to blur the role of People's Control, its struggle and its patriotic and class meaning. He called upon them to respond to the need to consolidate their role in the present circumstances by controlling and following up the execution of party and government decisions in different fields, including the implementation of quarterly and annual plans; inculcating a positive attitude to work; protecting public property; monitoring expenditures; fighting against the black market; and supervising the implementation of the provision program for citizens. He also asked them to develop relations between control committees and party and mass organizations and departments, on the one hand; utility employees, on the other; and to step up the fight against pathological phenomena, bribery, influence, peddling and bureaucracy.

At this point, he spoke of the need to attend to people's complaints and to ensure that they are followed up by the bodies concerned. He stressed that openness was an important condition for control work.

Finally, he expressed confidence that the controllers committees would be able to solve the problems which confront them in their work, thereby earning the trust that the party, government, and masses of the people place in them.

The 63 controllers taking part in the session, which will last until 24 November, will hear several lectures on the role of People's Control in the period of the national democratic revolution; the purposes of the People's Control Law; the role of the leadership in guiding the revolutionary process; the party's economic policy; and the imporatnce of cooperation between control bodies; and the foundations for such cooperation.

Briefs

Envoy to Somalia, India — Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, Supreme People's Council Presidium chairman, today appointed Muhammad Awad 'Abdallah Mashbah and Muhammad ibn Muhammad al-Hubayshi as ambassadors to the Somali Democratic Republic and India respectively. [Summary] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Nov 86 EA*]

Envoy to France — Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has appointed Dr 'Ali Muthanna Hasan as the new PDRY ambassador to France. [Summary][*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Nov 86 EA*]

UAE, Arab League Envoys — Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council [SPC] Presidium, has issued two decrees of the SPC Presidium. The first article of the first decree provides for the appointment of Brother Ahmad Salih Hajib as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Democratic Yemen to the UAE. The first article of the second decree provides for the appointment of Brother 'Abd al-Wahid Muhammad Fari as permanent delegate of Democratic Yemen to the Arab League. The remaining articles of the two decrees provide for the revocation of any previous appointments to these two posts, makes the appointments effective from the date of issue of the decrees and for their publication in the official gazette. [Text] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Nov 86 EA*]

SAUDI ARABIA

Paper Relates Vanunu Case to Israeli 'Terrorism'

PM171131 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 11 Nov 86 p 3

[Editorial: "West Ignores Zionist Terrorism and Blackmail"]

[Excerpts] There is nothing more contradictory than London hosting the EEC foreign ministers conference and calling for European solidarity to combat terrorism, while it is ignoring Zionist terrorism and the British arena is becoming a stage for the largest Israeli terrorist operations.

The Zionist entity's announcement that the Israeli nuclear technician, Mordekhai Vanunu, who disappeared suddenly from London 6 weeks ago, is being detained in Israel is part of the attempt to drop the curtain on a comical and incoherent play, whose acts do not yet seem to have been completed. The curtain might be raised again to reveal new acts and details, although it may not be difficult now to predict what they are going to be.

British official circles have shown confusion over the Israeli announcement, as if it was a shocking surprise. A British Foreign Office spokesman declared that, as long as there is evidence that Vanunu was taken out of Britain by force, there are no reasons to intervene with Israel. [passage omitted]

The voices of the British MP's have risen requesting investigation into the circumstances involving the disappearance of Vanunu and the extent of the Israeli Mosad's involvement in this case. A number of MP's have submitted questions to the British Government, which responded that there is no reason to conduct such an investigation.

There can be only two possibilities in this case: Either Vanunu was forcibly removed from Britain by the Israeli Mosad, for which the British Foreign Office says there is no evidence; or Vanunu left Britain of his own free will, returning to the Zionist entity without the British authorities having any knowledge or evidence of it. [passage omitted]

If we assume the first possibility it means it is necessary to admit that the British arena is open to Israeli terrorist activities in view of the absence of British security measures. It would behoove the British in this case to call for European solidarity to combat Zionist terrorism.

If we assume the second possibility, then the case will be even worse and more bitter. It means that the British arena and media are submitting to Israeli blackmail. Vanunu comes to Britain, stays in London, leaks his nuclear story to the biggest British papers in order to publish it, and then returns to the Zionist entity without Britain's knowledge of the circumstances of all these details. In either case, there is no lack of evidence of collusion with terrorism in the form of Israeli Mosad activity in London. Otherwise, how could Vanunu be kidnapped and forcibly taken to a prison in Israel without Britain's knowledge? Or is it a case of media connivance with the Israeli blackmail to publish what Israel wants to transmit through the British press?

Is it not more worthy of the EEC meeting in London to devote some of its attention to this case, which reveals how the European arena is open and freely accessible to Zionist terrorism and Israeli blackmail? Shouldn't this case convince the West that terrorism is not Arab. Zionist propaganda, which enjoys such strange Western support, is trying to label the Arabs as terrorists to distort their image and jeopardize their just causes.

Italian Defense Minister, King Discuss U.S. Policy

LD171954 Rome International Service in Italian 1555 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] During the meeting in Riyadh with Italian Defense Minister Spadolini, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed the belief that a correction in the course of U.S. policy is urgent. Spadolini and King Fahd discussed at length the complex problem of the Persian Gulf. King Fahd said he condemns terrorism in a very firm way. According to the Saudi king, any country that helps terrorism has no right to belong to the internatioal community.

Tomorrow Minister Spadolini will leave Riyadh for the Jordanian capital where he will be received by King Husayn.

Spadolini Describes Talks

LD172156 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh 17 Nov (SPA) — Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini described his talks with Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector-general, as constructive and useful, adding that the talks centered on the expansion of cooperation and the exchange of expertise in the fields of technology and training.

This was stated in a news statement delivered by the Italian defense minister at the beginning of his news conference, held this afternoon at the Armed Forces officers club in Riyadh. In his statement, he also said his talks with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal covered international problems, in general, and the Middle East situation, in particular.

He expressed the hope that a just settlement would be found to the Palestinian question within the context of the initiatives for peace and stability in the region, to which Saudi Arabia has contributed considerably.

The Italian minister said that during his talks with Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, they discussed relations between the two countries, means of technical and trade cooperation, the two countries' position vis-a-vis the Middle East issue and the Iraq-Iran war, and stressed that the two countries' views were similar. Spadolini described Saudi-Italian relations as excellent, and said military cooperation could be increased through the use of [words indistinct] between the two countries. He added that relations with Arab countries were very good, especially with the moderate states, which supported world peace. He said that Saudi Arabia occupied a special place due to the wisdom of its policy and the strength of its financial structure.

The Italian minister announced that Italian President Francesco Cossiga will pay an official visit to the Kingdom next year. [passage omitted]

Comments on War, Terrorism

LD172236 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2048 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, Spadolini said his country's position is considered neutral with regard to that war. He pointed out that his country has stopped all arms shipments to both Iran and Iraq since 1984.

In reply to a question on the best way of combating terrorism, and the current confusion between terrorism and defending oneself and one's rights, the Italian defense minister said that in his opinion the peoples' liberation struggle could not be perceived as terrorism for whatever reason. In this respect he added that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has frequently stressed his rejection of terrorism.

Spadolini Ends Visit, Departs

LD180916 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0820 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 18 Nov (SPA) At 1045 this morning Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini and the accompanying delegation left Riyadh following a 4-day official visit to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister and the inspector general, who was prominent among those seeing him off at King Khalid International Airport. [passage omitted]

Iranian Envoy Delivers Message to King Fahd

LD161421 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1337 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Nov (SPA) — Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, this afternoon received at his office the Iranian charge d'affaires to Saudi Arabia, (Mohammad Hoseyn Saremi), who delivered a message addressed to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud from the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

King Fahd Receives Message From Iraq's Husayn

LD152203 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Nov (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, has received a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The message was handed to Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, during his reception this evening of Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi. The meeting was attended by Hisham Nazir, the minister of planning and acting minister of petroleum and mineral resources; and 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, the Iraqi ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz Arrives in Riyadh on Visit

LD181121 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1105 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Nov (SPA) — Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived this afternoon in Riyadh on a visit to Saudi Arabia. He was welcomed at the airport by Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; the chief of protocl at the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador 'Isa al-Nuwaysr; and 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, the Iraqi ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd Chairs Council of Ministers Session

LD172044 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1628 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 17 Nov — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, chaired a Council of Ministers session this afternoon.

After the meeting, the minister of information pointed out to the SPA correspondent that the council heard a report on what the media said about the issues of the Arab region, including the Lebanese situation and what is happening regarding the Palestinian camps, in addition to the current political and security developments in the international arena.

King Fahd commented on all the events in a comprehensive statement, in which he covered some of the important issues. At the forefront of these issues is the Palestinian question, whose events have started intermingling once again with the Lebanese events either in the southern region or in the Palestinian refugee camps. [passage omitted]

The information minister added that King Fahd also informed the council about the results of the meetings he held with the two guests of Saudi Arabia, during the past few days, and what he pointed out to them regarding the standpoints of the country toward the topics covered by the talks.

The minister also said the council reviewed the topic raised by the minister of finance and national economy regarding the final formula of the joint agreement between Saudi Arabia and the fraternal state of Bahrain, which regulates the administrative procedures for the use of the Saudi-Bahraini bridge. [passage omitted]

UAE

Editorial Criticizes U.S. Arms Supplies to Iran

JN171252 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 15 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "America's Interest"]

[Text] Those who care for Islam and the Muslims, in general, and the Iraqi and Iranian peoples' present and future interests, in particular, are the ones whose hearts bleed for every loss of life and property inflicted on this or that country as a result of the continuation of the war between them. They are also the ones who urge an end to fighting among brothers, and support every effort in this regard. They pray so those who have the power to end this futile war wake up to the fact, which all the world realizes except themselves — the fact that only their archenemies stand to benefit from this joint suicide operation, and that everyday of this war brings further exhaustion of the resources of the Islamic world, and the Third World as a whole, at a time when we are in desperate need of mobilizing all our capabilities to resist the fierce hostile onslaught against our present, future, and entire history.

Those who harbor the worst intentions toward Islam and Muslims are the ones who encourage the two warring parties or one of them to continue the war. This is exactly what Henry Kissinger, the godfather of U.S. policy, explained when he said "our interest in this war is that the two sides continue to lose." According to this concept, we see why the United States is eager to supply Iran with arms, when it is fully aware that the Iranian rulers do not harbor any affection for the United States and continue to consider it the arch-Satan.

U.S. President Reagan's confession that he is supplying Iran with weapons is further proof of the extent of the Islamic world's enemies' eagerness for the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and for fueling it whenever this fuel is about to run out. This is done in a calculated manner, sufficient for the exchange of killing and destruction but insufficient to ever achieve a decisive victory and end the fighting. When will this fact reach the ears of those who have not yet realized it?

President Leaves on Official Visit to Morocco

JN161015 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Nov (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, left for Rabat today on an official visit to Morocco during which he will meet with Moroccan King Hassan II. A number of the Supreme Council members, heirs apparent, ministers, and ranking officials saw him off

Government To Establish Diplomatic Ties With SFRY

JN150809 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Nov (WAKH) — The UAE and SFRY Governments have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level as of 15 November 1986. A statement issued on this occasion says this step stems from the desire to reinforce relations of friendship and to develop cooperation between the UAE and the SFRY.

Bulgarian Official Discusses Trade Relations

JN180910 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 16 Nov 86 p 2

[By Naji al-Hayik]

[Excerpts] The volume of trade between the UAE and Bulgaria in 1986 totaled $5 million and is expected to rise to $8 million in 1987.

Dubai has the lion's share of the goods imported by the UAE from Bulgaria: Eighty percent of goods from Bulgaria are imported by Dubai merchants. An unspecified percentage of these goods are re-exported to GCC states and Iran.

Vasilin Bijev, the Bulgarian commercial attache in the UAE, says that foodstuff tops the list of goods imported by the UAE from Bulgaria, followed by meat, cattle, canned food, cloth, handicrafts, leather, and furniture. At present, there are attempts to market new types of products as water pumps, tires, and flowers, he adds.

The Bulgarian commercial attache says it is still difficult to market Bulgarian products in UAE markets. He asserts that once Bulgarian goods are tried, demand for them will increase because there is no commercial cheating, as the government directly supervises products that are for export. He adds that the Bulgarian Government is seeking, through the Bulgarian Trade Center in Dubayy, to establish a foothold in the UAE market by following a plan for the marketing of Bulgarian goods and encouraging demand for them. [passage omitted]

The Bulgarian commercial attache maintains that East European products still constitute a very small proportion of products in UAE markets in view of the difficulties faced by East European states in transferring their goods to area countries. [passage omitted]

The Bulgarian commercial attache says that 3,500 tourists from the UAE annually go to Bulgaria, and the figure is expected to rise in the coming years, as the Bulgarian airline intends to operate a Sofia-Dubayy-Sofia route in 1987. [passage omitted]

YAR

'Arafat Arrives for Talks With President

JN171718 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee Chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in the YAR capital, Sanaa, this afternoon on a visit which will last several days. During the visit he will hold talks with his brother, YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

At noon today, brother leader Abu 'Ammar concluded an official visit to the southern part of Yemen, where he met with a number of officials, headed by 'Ali Salim al-Bid and Abu Bakr al-'Attas.

'Arafat, President Hold Talks

JN171843 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in his office this evening. They discussed issues of common interest to the Yemeni and Palestinian revolution and the latest Arab developments.

The meeting was attended by Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and member of the Standing Committee.

Al-Din Accuses Government of 'Rigging' Elections

PM180923 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 5 Nov 86 pp 7, 8

["Text" of speech by NPUG Secretary General Khalid Muhyi al-Din at the opening of the 13th session of the NPUG Central Committee meeting in Cairo on 30 October 1986]

[Excerpts] Colleagues, we meet today at the opening of the 13th session of our NPUG Party's Central Committee.

This is the first session held by the Central Committee since the party's 10th anniversary. The party's birth on 10 April 1976 as a grouping of the basic and vanguard sectors of the great Egyptian left with its various tributaries and currents constituted a decisive point in the Egyptian people's struggle against the retreat from the social gains and national accomplishments which the people had achieved under the umbrella of the 23 July 1952 revolution. The Central Committee meeting coincides with the 30th anniversary of the tripartite Israeli-Anglo-French aggression of 29 October 1956, which culminated with the aggressors' defeat and withdrawal. Under the umbrella of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir's leadership, through their national unity which was embodied during and after the confrontation with the aggression, and through the outstanding resistance role performed by their vigilant and progressive vanguards, the Egyptian people confirmed the ability of peoples to regain their resources, defend their independence, end the age of armed colonialist aggression, and confront and defeat settlement-oriented colonialism and neocolonialism. This is a lesson we need to recall and understand, especially these days.

Egypt, the Arab homeland, and the world around us have witnessed significant and serious events since the previous session held on 23-24 January 1986.

The draft political report submitted to you by the General Secretariat deals with many of these events, especially the events connected with economic, social, democratic, and national conditions and the struggles of our masses, and our party in their center, against the policies of regression, parasitism, subservience, and corruption.

I beg you to permit me to dwell on some events which have taken place since this report was drafted and on their significance and impact on a number of future issues, especially the presidential elections, the labor union elections, and the local council elections.

There is no doubt that the imaginary by-elections the government held for the Consultative Council, regardless of our principled rejection of this council which has no role other than to exercise the rights of ownership of the press establishments, reaffirm that the government and its ruling party are lurking to pounce on the small degree of democracy available to the Egyptians.

These elections constituted a vulgar example of rigging, forging and assaulting the citizens' will and of replacing political action by forgery. In its simplest form, democracy states that all political action must culminate in the ballot box. [passage omitted]

There is no doubt that the lesson learned from the Consultative Council elections and the earlier lesson learned from the People's Assembly elections of 27 May 1984 cast broad shadows on the struggle battles confronting us in 1987.

The first of these battles is the battle of the local council elections. It is no longer acceptable that we abandon these councils again to the ruling party's exclusive control so that it can continue its ugly exploitation of the citizens in the hamlets, villages, towns, and cities. The local councils have been used grossly to spread corruption into everything relating to the Egyptian citizen's daily life. In local government everything has come to have an illicit price which the citizen has to pay from his meager daily subsistence.

To make the local councils democratic and popular we are required to wage a three-pronged battle:

First, we must move with all of society's vigorous democratic forces to amend the ill-reputed law governing the exercise of political rights which codifies the forging and rigging of the citizens' will. [passage omitted] Without amending this law, talk about the impartiality and freedom of the elections will continue to be pure nonsense.

Second, we must struggle to eliminate the innovation of election by the absolute list. I don't think I need to explain the corruptness of the system of election by the absolute list and by the conditional relative party list. Experience has served to expose the system's failure to the masses, and all that remains is to abolish the system legally.

Third, we must struggle to amend the local government law in order to bridge the numerous gaps exposed by its application in recent years.

Colleagues, next year we will be facing a democratic battle of special significance, namely the presidential election battle.

Regardless of our position toward individuals, we are past the stage of casting a "yes" or "no" vote for a single individual nominated by the People's Assembly to be president of the republic. In October 1981, under extremely difficult circumstances during which many of the party leaders were absent, we had the honor to urge the citizens to cast a "no" vote in the election of President Husni Mubarak when he declared that he would follow Al-Sadat's path. It was a stance compatible with the principled position of our party, which had firmly opposed all of Al-Sadat's policies. But in view of the election system our call amounted to no more than a reemphasis of a position for history. Next October the Egyptian people will be asked to go to the ballot boxes to vote in a referendum on an individual nominated by the current People's Assembly whose legitimacy is questioned as a result of the rigged elections of May 1984.

It is no longer acceptable for us or others to be content with reemphasizing another position for history.

The broad responsibility and powers given the Egyptian president by the existing constitution require us, I believe, to coordinate our action with the political parties and forces to wage an early battle to achieve two complementary objectives:

First, to amend the constitution so that the president and the vice president can be truly elected from among a number of candidates running as representatives of their parties or an alliance of parties or independently in order that the people may elect the president and the vice president by direct free vote. This means abolishing the stipulation that the People's Assembly nominate a single candidate for the presidency, that a referendum be held for the people to cast a "yes" or "no" vote, and that the president-elect be entitled to appoint his vice president any time he wishes.

Second, to have the amendment stipulate that whoever becomes president of the republic will resign from the political party to which he belongs and steer clear of membership in political parties throughout the duration of his presidential term.

I urge the Central Committee and all levels of the party to give though as of now to the methods of action that will make the next presidential elections a turning point in Egypt's political and democratic life. [passage omitted]

After discussing Arab and international conditions, the escalating U.S. onslaught, and the Camp David accords in their capacity as the most dangerous step in this onslaught, the U.S. anti-Arab campaign using the pretext of terrorism and encouraging all forms of state terrorism against the Palestinians, the Syrians, and the Lebanese, the campaign against Syria, the Israeli nuclear arsenal, the Palestinian resistance, and the Reykjavik summit, Khalid Muhyi al-Din said:

Colleague members of the Central Committee, if we turn to the party situation you will notice that we have dealt with it in the political report and in the party activity report from the angle of this situation's connection with the general political situation. We are facing:

An explosive economic crisis, with no hope of bringing it under control under the umbrella of the current policies. Rather, it is more likely that it will intensify year after year.

A spontaneous and growing popular movement exploding here or there remotely from the opposition parties' expectations, influence, or actual leadership.

Extreme official annoyance with the masses' escalating movement and with the opposition parties' stances and official sternness in confronting this movement and these stances for fear that they may spread to other popular sectors.

Thus, we are facing a difficult situation. The ruling forces are unable to solve the crisis, the opposition forces are unable to offer an alternative, and the masses are restless but unable to decide.

Here emerges the importance of developing our popular capabilities in order that we can actually become the popular movement's leadership and succeed in playing a more active role in the frontal action of the opposition parties generally and of the leftist forces in particular so that we can bolster the popular movement's ability to settle this tense situation and spare the country various dangers to which it may be exposed as a result of this insurmountable tension.

This session of the Central Committee meetings is urged to devote a great part of its attention to studying the NPUG's organizational conditions and to examining the causes of our failure so far to build the NPUG as a popular party and the reasons for the failure to implement the resolutions of the Central Committee's previous session which call for a decisive turn toward the masses by forming basic units in the popular localities and by establishing a presence in popular organizations. [passage omitted]

Because our country's current situation is dangerous and because the political situation is tense, it is our duty to examine with utter seriousness the reasons preventing us from moving forward with our popular struggle. This issue received the General Secretariat's and the Central Secretariat's attention in September and October. Numerous opinions were expressed on how to understand this phenomenon and its causes and how to tackle it, and more than one tendency surfaced in the General Secretariat's and Central Secretariat's discussions:

There are those who believe that after President Mubarak assumed power in October 1981 the party began to experience political disagreements which have affected its movement and that these disagreements are the cause of the problems we encounter in our partisan and popular action. People in political disagreement do not continue their activity with the same efficiency. Some people even suspend their activity at times.

If it is true that the party is united on the general political program, then honesty with oneself dictates that we acknowledge that there are political disagreement as a result of the lack of clarity in the political line and in the position toward the government in daily action or as a result of the presence of diverse viewpoints, explanations, and interpretations of this line.

Disagreement or divergence in interpretations began with the party's projection of its national salvation program and then with our election program for eliminating subservience, parasitism, and corruption.

Some people considered these phased and detailed programs to be tantamount to a retreat and to flirtation with nonrevolutionary classes or with classes unprepared for struggle or for joint action, even within the limits of the projected program.

These people have voiced the opinion that the party has abandoned the basic features distinguishing it in the political arena, such as the principle of nationalization and the socialist program generally. [passage omitted]

On the opposite side there is a current in the leadership and in the party generally which believes that the party's action is inclined toward radicalism and leftism, that the positions approved and adopted by the leadership bodies are disregarded by some party organizations, and that the party does not strive for these positions if they are not to the liking of these organizations, thus causing the party to miss real chances to exert influence and make gains.

It is the opinion of some people that *Al-Ahali* does not embody the party's political line on some issues for which those in charge of the paper's editorship are not enthusiastic or that the paper extracts from the politial line radical positions that go beyond the party's projections.

Partisan practice within the framework of frontal action is not free of divergences of assessment and opinion.

These and numerous other examples which reflect divergent concepts of the party's political line in daily action are normal and understandable in a party existing in the political arena, facing an extremely complex situation, and working tirelessly among the masses and adopting their causes.

But the question is: How can the party remain vigilant to make sure that these interpretations and this divergence do not turn into conflicts that obstruct the action's progress and development?

Can the inadequacy experienced by the party be attributed fundamentally to this cause?

The other viewpoint believes that even though the political disagreements are somewhat damaging, the cause of the problems is basically organizational. Here, two opinions surface:

There are those who believe that the absence of precinct and district committees and their irregular activity are the decisive cause of the poor partisan performance and of the weakness of our popular capabilities. These people believe that the main link in our future organizational action must be the drafting of a comprehensive organizational plan that focuses fundamentally on reviving action in the precinct and district committees. These people also believe that even though the governorate committees hold regular meetings, they need to include the following as priorities on their agenda:

Following up on the precincts' and districts' activities and maintaining contact with them.

Following up on the activities of the subsidiary secretariats.

Boosting financial resources and paying subscriptions.

The people who hold this opinion also believe that some of the central committee's instruments are not active and that it is necessary to revive them.

There is another tendency which believes that the absence of the precinct and district committees is one of the negative features of our organizational action and that there are other no less significant negative features, such as the state of the party's basic cadres who are not bound to each other by true intellectual unity and who are not tied to the party's general political program or to its tactical positions by a unified understanding. A large segment of the cadres have not gained enough experience to qualify them to perform their leadership duties. This is due fundamentally to failure of the party's central level, especially the Central Committee, to give priority in its activity to the issues of building the NPUG as a popular party and to the failure of the General Secretariat to put pressure on the Central Committee to change its priorities. The people who hold this opinion believe that unless this situation is corrected, no tangible progress can be achieved in tackling the other negative features, such as the irregular activity of the precinct or governorate committees. [passage omitted]

Dear brothers, these are examples of the ideas projected to develop the party's internal condition so as to help the entire membership to enhance its relations with the masses. Even though we do not expect the Central Committee's current session to settle this issue, we present the issue to you so that you can determine how to tackle it, what steps must be taken to solve it, and how to eliminate the obstacles impeding implementation of the resolutions of the previous Central Committee session.

It may be beneficial if the Central Committee decides to devote its next session in April 1987 to discussing the development of the internal situation in the light of the resolutions issues by this session, provided that the party makes this issue one of the priorities of its internal action throughout the next 6 months and that it discuss the issue in new ways. [passage omitted]

Colleagues, your party is not just a podium in the political arena. It is a struggling, influential, and effective battalion with a popular dimension which we hope will grow deeper. In conclusion, I am glad to convey to you the greetings of the railroad workers' leaders who insisted on proceeding from jail to your party's headquarters to express to the party and its leadership their profound gratitude and appreciation for the clear and sound position the party took in defending them, their rights, and their families.

This is just one of recurrent examples that may pass before our eyes without our noticing their significance and effect. Your party is capable with you and will grow more capable with you. Long live Egypt as a homeland of freedom, socialism, and unity.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Reports on Arrest of Iranians 'Groundless'

NC171413 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — An official source at the Ministry of the Interior has denied reports published in an Arab newspaper that Egyptian security authorities have arrested six Iranians who entered Egypt via Port Said seaport, using forged Japanese passports and posing as businessmen. The source said that the report is completely groundless.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Watan* carried this report, saying that the Italian police had passed on to the Egyptian authorities information it received from the captain of an Italian ship. According to the captain, six Iranians paid him $25,000 to transport them to Cairo. Subsequently, an Egyptian security officer flew to verify the report; he then secretly accompanied the Iranians to Port Said and from there to Cairo, the paper said.

Badr: Interior Ministry To Confront 'Deviation'

JN171414 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 15 Nov 86 pp 1, 7

['Abd al-Wahhab al-Yarqani dispatch]

[Text] Interior Minister Zaki Badr has affirmed that the Ministry's plan during the next stage is based on affirming the climate of security and stability and on not allowing violations of law and order within the framework of the law, and confronting deviation and corruption in all forms. The police will begin applying this to its members as an example for all governmental departments.

The interior minister said that the ministry's objective is to improve methods of dealing with the public in police departments as well as to strengthen relations among the police, the government departments, and the people. The ministry's objective is also to tighten control over markets, to ensure that basic commodities are available and that prices are abided by, and also to intensify the fight against crime.

The interior minister added that the ministry will also work to tighten control over the country's exit points, review security plans and security at important installations and establishments. He added that the ministry will stress the spirit of team work while focusing on the cultural and social wellbeing of soldiers and promoting their standard of living and their performance through continuous training.

This came during a meeting yesterday with the interior minister's assistants and heads of the central departments at the ministry to review the general outlines of the ministry's policy in light of the letter of designation and the president's speech at the meeting of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council.

Paper Questions Sidqi's Political Qualifications

PM171519 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 11 Nov 86 pp 1, 3

[Editorial: "Observations on the Cabinet Reshuffle"]

[Excerpts] The new cabinet formation was announced yesterday. It was known from the start that the change will affect a limited number of ministers who do not occupy key posts. Therefore it appears that Dr 'Ali Lutfi was the only person at whom the change was aimed and that we are looking at the resignation of one person and not of the whole cabinet.

This is probably what would dampen the hopes that the change at the highest excutive level was supposed to revive. Although we appreciate the role the prime minister plays, we do not think that restricting the change to the individual occupying this post would arouse any legitimate hopes.

Sticking to this very limited change reminds us of the dilemma of Dr 'Ali Lutfi's cabinet which from the beginning faced two obstacles:

The first obstacle was that he was forced to cooperate with a team that was already set up by former prime minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. Which meant that cooperation within the cabinet was not possible because cooperation among people and their acceptance of a particular leadership cannot be achieved by a decision. Rather it calls for previous knowledge of and personal confidence in the leader's capability. [passage omitted]

In fact, during his 13-month tenure Dr 'Ali Lutfi suffered from splits and disagreements within the cabinet. There is no doubt that disputes at such a level affect the effectiveness and speed of decisionmaking and the achievement of cooperation between the various sectors, as well as the resolution of disputes between the various ministries. This was the basic problem behind everything and it led to his resignation.

Unfortunately we do not find that [Prime Minister] Dr 'Atif Sidqi is in a better position in this regard. He has faced himself with the same dilemma and has to work with a team whose members he did not know before.

The second obstacle that Dr 'Ali Lutfi faced lay in his political makeup. The multfarious problems which Egypt is facing and which increased and became particularly complex last year required a leadership blessed with an all-embracing view as well as with courage and a steel will in making the appropriate decisions.

Dr 'Ali Lutfi was not tested in previous stituations, and we thought that the position would quickly enable him to acquire the desired skills. But unfortunately, because of his specialization, he continued to concentrate on economic matters more than he should. Even the measures that were taken in this regard were partial and without a clear line.

There is no doubt that Dr 'Atif Sidqi acquired great experience in state affairs and their management during his chairmanship of the Central Accounting Department. The qualities President Mubarak attributed to him (in the letter designating him prime minister) are real and we personally appreciate him. The president said that Dr 'Atif Sidqi has stamina for hard work, the ability to adhere to a planned course of action, is keen on following up action, and strictly upholds integrity and is careful with public funds.

But if these are all Dr 'Atif Sidqi's qualities then he should have continued his work in the Central Accounting Department and not have been designated to head the government. Heading the goverment requires other qualifications, political qualifications. Political qualifications begin with the ability to deal with society in general (individuals and groups), with its character, interests, and economic affairs. Of necessity this includes Arab and international relations and national security matters. [passage omitted]

Unless the prime minister is familiar with all this he will fail to resolve the problems facing us; he will fail to resolve the problem of rising prices (to which he was asked to pay particular attention) and will fail to resolve any other problem relating to development, social justice, or protecting the opressed. [passage omitted]

Press Analyzes Effects of U.S.-Iran Arms Deal

NC180500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — In their Tuesday editions, *Al-Akhbar* and *Al-Jumhuriyah* comment on the secret contacts between the United States and Iran, and on the American arms deal and its impact on the Iraq-Iran war. The two papers emphasize that this conflict is still going on because the major powers do not want it to end, and see their interests served by the draining of human and material resources in both countries. They also emphasize that the war can be ended only by the will of the two parties involved in the conflict.

Al-Jumhuriyah notes that the Iranian religious leadership's insistence on continuing the war points to new factors, as the world suddenly realizes that the Iranian war machine has obtained a mountain of American weapons since 1982. It has done so either directly or through third parties, especially Israel, with no interest in an end to the fighting. *Al-Jumhuriyah* says that the most serious matter here is the unmasking of the hypocrisy of Iran's religious leaders. Their sole and ultimate objective appeared to be the mere removal of the shah and the toppling of his regime. However, Iran's relations have remained the same. The goal of continuing the war with Iraq can be achieved through a pact with the devil, regardless of the consequences.

The paper points out that the American position has surprised only those who thought that principles could underlie the policies of major powers. In fact, they pay no attention to the interests of Third World states. They are concerned only about their own well-being, and in controlling the resources of developing nations at all costs.

Al-Akhbar explains that the secrets tied up in the contacts between the United States and Iran, which were made public by chance, as well as those that have not been revealed about other powers that give arms to the two warring states without a thought for the consequences, constitute a call to the Islamic world to make vigorous and positive efforts to end the war.

The paper adds that this is another appeal to Arab states to oust those Western elements unconsciously fanning the fires of war by standing at the side of the aggressor, who has rejected all calls for peace. In addition, the paper refers to the tour that His Eminence Shaykh Jad al-Haqq 'Ali Jad al-Haqq, grand imam and shaykh of Al-Azhar, is making of a number of Islamic countries. This confirms Egypt's stand, which asks Islamic states to put aside their differences and reunite.

Al-Akhbar writes that the shaykh of Al-Azhar has been eager to use his trip to call on the Islamic nation to come together and stop the Iraq-Iran war, which is considered one of its worst crises. The paper concludes its commentary by emphasizing Egypt's determination to take up the causes of the Arab and Islamic nation in all its stands. Noble Al-Azhar will also play its time-honored role and provide services to muslims around the world. *Al-Akhbar* explains that the enemies of the Islamic nation are its implacable foes. There is nothing worse than Muslims themselves being the responsible for the distortion of their own image.

Sudanese Official Meets With NDP Leader

NC172104 Cairo MENA in English 2040 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 17 (MENA) — Dr. Yusuf Wali, secretary general of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP), deputy premier and minister of agriculture and land reclamation, tonight conferred with Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin, member of the Sudanese State Council, and the accompanying delegation currently visiting here, on fraternal relations between Egypt and Sudan.

They also exchanged views on a number of issues of common interest at the internal and external levels, within the framework of everlasting relations between the two peoples. The meeting, which was held at the NDP Headquarters, was attended by Minister of Insurance and Social Affairs Dr. Amal 'Uthman, Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif and Minister of Local Government and NDP Assistant Secretary-General Dr. Ahmad Salamah.

Oil Ministry Supports OPEC's Proposed Oil Price

NC171722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 (MENA) — Chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has expressed Egypt's support for OPEC's decision to fix the price of oil at $18 per barrel. The decision was made at a meeting of OPEC's pricing committee in Ecuador this week. In a press statement today, Qandil said that Egypt favors any trend [words indistinct] however, this price should be completely flexible for both producing and consuming countries, in order to enhance the market's stability. Qandil added that in our opinion, a reasonable price for both producers and consumers would be $25 a barrel. This would encourage continued exploration and drilling with an eye to building up international reserves.

Iraqi Speaker Hammadi Ends Visit, Departs

NC171545 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — Sa'dun Hammadi, speaker of Iraq's National Assembly, left Cairo for Baghdad this evening, ending a 1-day official visit that included a meeting with President Husni Mubarak. Before his departure, Hammadi said he was carrying a message from President Mubarak to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. He also referred to his talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on bilateral relations and the Gulf war.

Irish Foreign Minister Arrives; Makes Statement

NC162113 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry arrived in Cairo tonight for a 3-day visit to Egypt, which will include meetings with President Mubarak and other senior officials. In a statement, the Irish foreign minister praised bilateral relations, and said he would hear Egypt's views on the Middle East, the Iraq-Iran war, Lebanon, international terrorism, and the situation in Sudan and Africa as a whole. He added that he will brief the Egyptians on the European position concerning the Middle East crisis, and Europe's contribution to solving it. He noted that the European countries outlined their stand on this question in the Venice Declaration.

Meanwhile, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who welcomed the Irish guest at the airport, said that talks between the two countries will begin tomorrow, and will cover bilateral ties and issues of common concern. He explained that emphasis will be placed on developments in the Middle East, and expressed hope that the Irish minister's trip to Egypt will be productive.

Sidqi Receives Barry

NC171532 Cairo MENA in English 1445 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov. 17 (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi discussed here today with Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry means of promoting cooperation between the two countries in all domains. Barry arrived in Cairo yesterday on a three-day visit during which he would meet with President Husni Mubarak and senior officials. The Irish minister's visit is aimed at getting acquainted with Egypt's views about the Middle East question, the Gulf War, the situation in Lebanon, international terrorism and the situation in Sudan and South Africa.

Joint Talks Held

NC171932 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] A round of official talks was held tonight between Egypt and Ireland. The Egyptian delegation was headed by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, while the Irish were led by their foreign minister, Peter Barry. Representatives of the two countries reviewed international issues of common concern, foremost of which was the Palestinian question. They also discussed current efforts for peace in the Middle East, including the proposal for an international peace conference. Bilateral ties and their consolidation in the fields of commerce, economics, and culture were examined as well.

Ghali Back From Lome With Messages for Mubarak

NC171749 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this evening from Togo after leading Egypt's delegation to the Franco-African summit in Lome. In an arrival statement, Dr Ghali said he would present a full report to President Mubarak on the results of the conference, and on his talks with the heads of African delegations there. He added that the leaders of many countries taking part gave him messages for President Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Al-Mahjub Leaves for Jordan With Mubarak Message

NC160855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0820 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, speaker of the People's Assembly, left Cairo this morning leading a parliamentary delegation on a 4-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian House of Representatives. Prior to his departure, Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub stated that he will convey a message to King Husayn from President Husni Mubarak. He said that this is the first visit to Jordan by a delegation of the Egyptian People's Assembly since a visit to Cairo by a Jordanian House of Representatives delegation. He added that the visit will provide an opportunity for meetings with members of the Jordanian House of Representatives and Senate and other officials.

Military Chief Affirms Control Over Oil Pipeline

JN171508 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Zakhu, Northern Iraq, 17 Nov (INA) — Correspondents from Arab and foreign newspapers and news agencies visited the city of Zakhu in northern Iraq today and met with the chief of staff of the 38th Division, which controls the area. The Arab and foreign correspondents viewed the oil pumping operation at the Zakhu station and saw for themselves that tanker trucks were heading toward the Turkish border. During his meeting with the reporters and correspondents who visited the area today, the chief of staff of the 38th Division refuted the Iranian regime's allegations that its forces have brought the division's units under control. He described the allegations as mere lies that confirm the Iranian regime's failure to make any military gains as well as its attempts to conceal its huge losses and defeat.

The military commander also affirmed that his forces control all routes to the border and that the Iraqi pipeline to Turkey is under the protection of the Iraqi forces, which control all the sectors and areas within the division's jurisdiction. Regarding the Iranian allegations that the route between Iraq and Turkey has been cut off, the military commander said his division's forces are in full control of all the routes and sectors in the area, and conditions in the city of Zakhu, which Iran's rulers have claimed is under siege, are normal. The correspondents also toured the Zakhu District center, saw the normal conditions there, and met with a number of citizens.

Communique Reports Iranian Fighter Plane Attacks

JN171806 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,443 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With their ability to defend the homeland, our brave Armed Forces convey our country's strong social, economic, and political structure, achieved by the generous revolution and its historic leadership. The following is a roundup of the activities for last night and today:

1. The units of the brave III Army Corps carried out intensive artillery and tank shelling of the enemy positions opposite themin the east of Al-Basrah sector of operations, paralyzing the enemy's engineering operations; destroying five infantry positions; killing two enemy soldiers; destroying an ammunition depot and a machine gun emplacement; and killing its personnel. The enemy was seen evacuating its casualties. In another area of the same sector, a vehicle was demaged, a medium machine gun and a two-barreled machine gun were destroyed, and their personnel were killed.

2. A shovel was destroyed on the VII Army Corps front.

3. An infantry position and a personnel bunker were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

4. Two enemy fighter planes penetrated our international borders this morning to attack a residential area in the city of Irbil. The attack martyred 3 civilians; injured 29 civilians, including 8 women and 9 children; demolished 4 houses; and damaged 1 building, 25 shops, and 6 civilian cars. Two other enemy planes also penetrated our international borders to attack residential areas in the (Sharq Qal'ah) Subdistrict of Diyalah Governorate. One child was martyred; 11 civilians, including a 45-day-old baby girl, were wounded; 2 houses were destroyed; and 9 houses, an elementary school, a preparatory school, the subdistrict's dispensary, 5 other buildings, and 1 civilian car were damaged.

5. The Khomeyniite rogues shelled the city of Basra and the townships of Halabjah, Badrah, and Mandali with long-range artillery, injuring 9 civilians, including 5 women and 1 child; destroying 5 houses in the township of Halabjah; damasging 13 shops and 2 buildings in the township of Badrah; and destroying 1 house in the township of Mandali.

Mercy to our martyrs and a quick recovery for our injured, God willing. And so the unjust assailants will know what vicissitudes their affairs will take. [Koranic verse]

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 November 1986

Briefs

New Algerian Ambassador — Baghdad, 17 Nov (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received here today Nur al-Din Sahrawi on the assumption of his duties as Algeria's new ambassador to Iraq. During the meeting, they reviewed relations between the two countries and ways to promote then in the interest of the pan-Arab, fateful issues. [Summary] [*Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Nov 86 JN*]

Husayn Interviewed on Area Peace, PLO, Terrorism

JN180830 Amman Television Service in English
2000 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] His majesty the king has reiterated that a solution to the Middle East problem can be reached inside an international conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and parties involved in the conflict, including the PLO. In an interview with the BBC Glascow of Scotland on "Open to Question" program recorded on November 8th and broadcast tonight, his majesty first answered a question on Jordan's peace efforts. Here are excerpts of the interview:

[Begin recording] [Husayn] When we pursue peace the goal of peace is one that is dear to us and in our minds is our responsibility towards all the generations to come in this entire area, their interest in their security, in the chance for making progress under conditions of stability and certainly within the context of a comprehensive peace. That is the peace we seek, our contribution for a better future for generations to come.

[Moderator] Robert Groves.

[Groves] Do you think that Israel poses a serious threat to the stability of Jordan?

[Husayn] I believe the absence of peace in in the area, a just peace, a lasting peace, peace that generations can live with, peace that people can live with and protect is a cause of instability in the entire area, and I do believe that the Arab-Israeli problem and the fact that it hasn't been resolved over so many years and all the suffering that ensued are a root cause of instability in this entire area.

[Groves] Yes. If as you say here you condemned terrorism, how can you then acknowledge the Palestinian Liberation Organization as the rightful representation of your other people?

[Husayn] The PLO as an institution we accept and recognize as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. However, we do not see eye to eye with its leadership and as a result, as is well known, we have ceased our coordination with that leadership. But, nontheless, we feel that the Palestinians must be there, must be represented in any process leading to a solution of the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli dilemma. Otherwise, there is no way by which we can resolve the Palestinian problem without the participation of the Palestinians, the prime party that has suffered so much over so many years.

[Moderator] [words indistinct]

[Question] Are you therefore justifying terrorism?

[Husayn] I am not justifying terrorism anywhere in the world. I am not justifying terrorism that has as its aim innocent people anywhere. I am suggesting at the same time that the people under occupation have a right to resist that occupation.

[Question] If the leadership changed would you be prepared to negotiate with PLO?

[Husayn] I beg your pardon.

[Question] If the leadership of the PLO changed, would you be prepared to negotiate with them?

[Husayn] It's not a question of persons or individuals; it's a question of an approach. And we thought at a certain time in the very recent past that we were coming very close towards being ready — all the parties to the conflict in the area within the context of an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council — to deal with this problem once and for all and resolve. And obviously such a conference would have been based on acceptance of Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, and renunciation of violence while negotiations were being held to achieve peace. But the PLO at the 11th hour could not come through with accepting 242 and 338 and that caused us to stop our coordinating with them and this is where we are at the moment.

[Question] Is it true that because of your disagreement with PLO leadership you are trying to undermine the present leadership by your policy of investment in the West Bank at present?

[Husayn] Hardly at all, sir. We've always felt a very deep sense of responsibility towards our brethren in the occupied territories, particularly the West Bank and in addition to that Gaza. And it is in our national interest. It is part of our belief, our sense of responsibility, to do all we can to ensure that people are able to stay on their land and to contribute towards giving them the minimal at leas possible needs and requirements to enable them to survive after almost 19 years plus of occupation.

[Moderator] Geoffrey Fisherman.

[Fisherman] Do you see any hope of reconciling the rights of the Palestinians for self-determination or recognizing Israel's need for secure borders?

[Husayn] I do not see why there should be a contradiction between both. The rights of the Palestinians are obviously rights that have to be recognized on their land and soil and also the right of Israel to live in peace and security. And this is part of Security Council Resolution 242, as you well know.

[Fisherman] Yes. How would you deal with Israel's settlers in the West Bank if you were to ever regain control of the West Bank?

[Husayn] I believe that as far as the occupied territories are concerned they are territories that should be returned to Arab sovereignty. But there are many many problems that have to be dealt with and the venue for dealing with them adequately is through the international conference, five permanent members of Security Council, the guarantors eventually of the implementation of 242 and 338 and the resolution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects and all parties to the conflict, including the PLO and obviously Israel and the other parties to the conflict on the Arab side, including Jordan.

[Question] What do you see is Jordan's role in the object of obtaining peace in the Middle East?

[Husayn] Jordan is very much involved probably more so than any of its Arab brethren with the Palestinian problem. We as a Hashemite family have been involved with the problem of Palestinian rights ever since the Arab revolt at the beginning of this century. And so we will obviously try our very best with the help of friends all over the world to achieve the objective of peace and we'll definitely leave no door unopen to try to achieve it, a just peace, a lasting peace for this entire area.

[Moderator] [words indistinct] Davis.

[Davis] Do you regard the intervention of the superpowers in the Middle East as a help or a hindrance?

[Husayn] A concerted effort by the superpowers is something we welcome very very much indeed. But to avoid polarization in this area between the two superpowers in terms of their interests, we have suggested that the two superpowers, in addition to the other permanent members of Security Council, ought to be involved in helping the parties to the conflict arrive at peace.

[Moderator] Yes.

[Question] America certainly appears to be a protector over Jordan. Do you not feel that you are clinging at America's underskirts too much?

[Husayn] I do not believe that even the Americans have ever had reason to feel that way. We are a country that has good relations with the United States. We appreciate their help and support many times, but we also disagree with them and have disagreed with them at many points and we base our relations with the other nations on the base of mutual respect, noninterference in our affairs, and in an openness to cooperate in whatever is in the best interest of all in the area and all in the world.

[Moderator] Richard Lowder.

[Lowder] Do you believe that terrorism is ever acceptable?

[Husayn] No, I do not believe it is acceptable and we have condemned it and we will continue to do so. We have also suffered from it.

[Lowder] Are you therefore against blacks in South Africa fighting for their own freedom and are you therefore for an apartheid?

[Husayn] No, I do not see how you can link that position to what is happening in South Africa. I believe that people in conditions under occupation have a right to strive to achieve their rights. This certainly was the case in Europe during the Second World War. It is the case in Afghanistan and this is a right of the people repressed under occupation, denied their rights, to resist such occupation and excesses. But terrorism of the kind we speak of is what we are seeing in the world and that we are definitely against. In fact, we have suffered from it ourselves and we will never accept it or condone it in any form or way.

[Moderator] Do you want to come back in?

[Question] Yes. Surely then the only difference between a terrorist or what you call a freedom fighter is whether you are for or against what they are trying to get.

[Husayn] No, I do not think so. Otherwise, all the peoples of Europe during the Second World War and many others would also be called terrorists. Would you agree with that?

[Question] No.

[Husayn] Ok.

[Question] King Husayn, I wonder are you being disturbed at the fact that there is some question that the United States may be providing arms to Iran in the Iran-Iraq conflict?

[Husayn] If the United States is actually providing arms to Iran in the Iraq-Iran conflict, I believe this will be a very regrettable and a very shocking and a very sad development. And it will be a contradiction with the United States' proclaimed position up to this movement.

[Moderator] Yes.

[Question] If this is true, would you break off diplomatic relations with the USA?

[Husayn] I do not believe in breaking diplomatic relations with the nations in this world. I believe in constructive dialogue wherever and whenever possible. I do not think we will break diplomatic relations with the United States if this happens, but certainly we will have to look at all aspects of our relations in the light of what transpires in the near future.

[Moderator] Yes.

[Question] Therefore you are putting aside some of your principles in order to keep the United States as an ally.

[Husayn] I beg your pardon.

[Question] You're putting aside some of your principles in order to keep the United States as an ally.

[Husayn] We never compromise our principles nor are we an ally of the United States nor is the United States an ally of Jordan. Jordan has friendly relations with the United States, with Soviet Union, with China, with Europe, with the United Kingdom in particular, and Jordan has never compromised its principles, no.

[Question] King Husayn, the ayatollah has said that after he wins the Iran-Iraqi conflict he believes that his next step as an Islamic leader should be to declare a holy war to win back Jerusalem. I wonder in conclusion what your feelings are about the possibility of extended conflict with a new desire to win Jerusalem and seemingly no end to hostilities in the Middle East.

[Husayn] Well, our position is that of support for Iraq. We are supporting Iraq, we have continued to support Iraq, we will continue to do so. We are also for an end to this conflict and an end that will see the borders of both recognized and this is enough in terms of references to history to make that possible. The other element that is missing is relations based on mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of each other or for that matter the affairs of any in the area. And we believe that Iraq has been positive in accepting every initiative to end this war. So far Iran has sadly not. And I do believe that if Iran should succeed the dangers are great to the entire area and may be to the world because there is a dimension of fomenting the creation of a rift within the Muslim ranks between Sunnis and Shi'ites and creating dangers throughout the area — dangers even to the very Arab identity, to the Arab people as such. We stand by Iraq because we are members of the Arab League. We stand by them because of the charter of the Arab League. We stand by them because of the joint defense agreements we have with them and other Arab states. But we stand with them also in defense of the Arab identity, the Arab future, and Arab freedom. And we certainly hope that this war will not end with the Iranians overrunning the area and destroying the very world in which we believe and to which we belong.

[Moderator] King Husayn, thank you very much indeed for being open to questions. [applause]

King Receives Egyptian People's Assembly Speaker

JN171519 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Amman, 17 Nov (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn received Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, speaker of Egypt's People's Assembly, and his delegation at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. Al-Mahjub conveyed to his majesty a verbal message from His Excellency President Mubarak of Egypt dealing with bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and Arab developments. The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the speakers of the Senate and House of Representatives, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman. [passage omitted]

Crown Prince Confers With EC's Claude Cheysson

JN180900 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received at his place of residence in Geneva today Claude Cheysson, member of the EC committee and official in charge of the Mediterranean basin region. During the meeting, they discussed the results of the Jordanian development conference held in Amman recently during which the 5-year development plan as well as the development program for the occupied territories and the aid the EC states will extend to the plan were reviewed. His highness the crown prince and Cheysson reviewed relations between Jordan and the EC states. The meeting was attended by Dr Tahir Kan'an, the planning minister; 'Umar 'Abdallah, chairman of the board of directors of the Arab Potash Company; and Hasan Abu Ni'mah, Jordanian ambassador to the EC.

Iranian Charge: 'Nothing To Do' With Hostages

NC171339 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, has met with ('Abd al-'Aziz Radania), acting Iranian charge d'affaires, who said that Al-Turk has informed him of the Lebanese Government's consent to the appointment of a new Iranian ambassador to Lebanon. He is (Ahmad Dastaljian), who will arrive in Beirut soon.

In response to a question, (Radania) denied that the Iranian Embassy had come under shelling or sniper fire. He hoped that Lebanese-Iranian relations would improve.

Touching on Iranian-U.S. rapprochement, he said: I think the statements made by the Iranian leaders are sufficient. He added: I can sum up by saying that if Washington wants relations to return to what they were, namely, a relationship between the oppressor and the oppressed, this will never be. However, if America promises not to interfere in Iranian affairs, we will think it over.

Answering a question on the possibility of releasing more hostages, (Radania) said: Iran has nothing to do with the hostages issue. However, for humanitarian reasons, we make efforts in such cases so that the hostages may be released.

Group Says French Hostage To Be Freed 'Soon'

NC180611 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0542 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] An unidentified person, claiming to belong to the Revolutionary Justice Organization, telephoned the *Al-Safir* newspaper last night and declared that the organization will release French hostage Marcel Carton soon. According to a statement read out by the caller, it has been decided to free the hostage for purely humanitarian reasons. The release will take place at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Beirut in the presence of Christian Graeff, French ambassador in Beirut. Marcel Carton was kidnapped on 22 March 1985. It should be recalled that this organization released French hostages Marcel Coudari and Camille Sontag on the 11th of this month. At that time it announced that it would free three hostages.

Karami Explains Reasons for Economic Decline

NC172109 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Remarks by Prime Minister Rashid Karami in response to questions by unidentified correspondents following a meeting of the West Beirut Security Coordination Committee on 17 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Karami] I briefed the members of the Coordination Committee on the events of the past week. I explained the reasons that prompted me to announce my position on everything I thought was going on behind the scenes, and in various meetings here and there. I felt that my responsibilities compelled me to reveal everything that was going on. After all, it is not right to keep silent about matters affecting our people's livelihood, and about the rise in the dollar's exchange rate, and its impact on the standard of living of all Lebanese.

The president delivered a speech on Army Day, and referred to a number of principles and slogans. I found in them a way to return to dialogue and reconciliation. I responded on my own initiative, and laid out a method to accomplish that. This led to the meetings of the Cabinet as a dialogue committee at the racetrack. We raised various issues, and decided on three things: A security truce, a propaganda truce, and the return of legal ports to government control.

However, all this has been in vain. We faced those who insisted that we go to B'abda and convene the Cabinet. The president, after a practical boycott and then an officially declared one, had no alternative but to use every means at his disposal to pressure us into returning to the Cabinet. During his meeting with members of the bankers association, he said that the rise of the dollar would not stop until the ministers came to him in B'abda to attend a Cabinet session. We reject such tactics.

Questions have been submitted in the Chamber of Deputies following my statement, and there were reactions to my comments in the eastern area from those linked by common goals. [passage omitted]

All these developments have led to the current state of affairs. It is no longer permissible to conceal everything we know about the situation. Since questions have been raised, the answers will be franker still. I will talk about everything I know, and will dot the i's and cross the t's. At that point, everyone should assume his responsibilities.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, you mentioned the submission of questions. This means that a campaign has been organized against the prime minister, implying that he is to blame for the dollar's rise. The people are in the midst of serious economic crises. There is a real social problem, Mr Prime Minister. Will any measures, even partial ones, be taken to match the political activity designed to halt this deterioration?

[Karami] As you know, one of the reasons for the collapse of the Lebanese pound was the drop in the Bank of Lebanon's foreign exchange reserves. They were depleted by the purchase of nearly $1.5 billion worth of weapons before the present Cabinet was formed. There are also tens of millions of dollars in unpaid loans that were used for those arms. We are talking to the United States about postponing the repayment of the principal and interest on these debts. Some wanted to use the Army to subjugate all Lebanese, and force them to accept the rule of the president. The president is still working in the same direction, despite repeated failures on the mountain, and in the southern suburb and West Beirut. Another reason is the Army's division into sectarian brigades. This is the result of the policy pursued by the current regime. There is still another cause, which is the seizure of state ports. This deprives the treasury of customs revenues. The treasury receives 100 million pounds a month, while expenditures are 2 billion pounds. They can say that the government and the prime minister are to blame for the dollar's rise, but the real reasons for it are well known, and I will explain them in the Chamber of Deputies in response to these questions. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, people are more concerned about Lebanon's future now than ever before. Where is the country headed?

[Karami] Lebanon is headed toward national reconciliation, and toward reforms in its political, economic, and security affairs. This can be done through ministerial dialogue committee meetings at the racetrack, and not in B'abda. If we reach agreement through dialogue, that could lead to the resumption of Cabinet sessions in B'abda, and to the opening of the road to Damascus. Neither the Cairo way nor any other can bring stability and prosperity back to this country. [passage omitted]

Phalangists Urge Cabinet To Act on Economy

NC171500 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Statement issued by the Phalangist Party Political Bureau following a meeting on 17 November]

[Text] In accordance with the principles and values followed by the Phalangist Party in defense of the homeland, people, and state and in securing the basic social, economic, and other rights of citizens, the Phalangist Party Political Bureau wishes to state the following:

1. The current socioeconomic crisis is smothering all our citizens. If it is allowed to continue, the harm which it causes will surpass the existing state of need, hunger, and lack of medical care. It will spread to more serious matters, the simplest of which are those connected with social deviations and increased emigration. Such developments are particularly murderous for the state.

2. The inevitable consequence of this crisis will be the total destruction of the fundamental factors which are indispensable to the citizens' steadfastness.

3. It is the belief of the Phalangist Party that the present deterioration in the standard of living is part of a real economic war being waged against Lebanon and all its people. The economic aspects of this crisis have artificial causes which stem from the agentry and subservience of some people and the greed of others. As a result, these people have all become part of a mechanism for the economic destruction of Lebanon. The political aspects of this crisis stem from the fact that some people, who hold positions of responsibility, have resorted to obstructing the process of political decisionmaking. They prevent the adoption of those measures capable of bringing an end to the current state of attrition and inevitable collapse. They are doing this for the sake of their own personal interests or on behalf of others. In light of this, the Phalangist Party calls for the immediate convocation of the cabinet in order to halt this attrition and conspiracy. If the cabinet does not meet immediately, the Phalangist Party will request that the Chamber of Deputies intervene quickly to find the appropriate solutions.

The calamity affects all Lebanese people without exception and confronting it is a comprehensive national duty. Doing nothing only serves the foreigners who are lying in wait for a total collapse in order to destroy the homeland's security and people. The Phalangist Party declares to all Lebanese people that it will support them and do its utmost to find the appropriate solutions. Its motto is: Social and economic security, if total security is not attainable.

Palestinian Office Hit in Israeli Raid

NC171451 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Beirut, Nov 17 (AFP) — Three Israeli Air Force helicopters Monday fired missiles against a Palestinian position in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp east of Sidon, reports from the region said. The building targeted was an office of Samir Ghawshah'sPalestinian Popular Struggle Front (PPSF), which was hit dead-centre, a Palestinian source was quoted as saying. Sunday three Palestinian civilians were wounded when Israeli warplanes attacked Fatah positions in the area.

Mountain Artillery Pounds Southern Suburb

NC171325 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The camps war is almost 2 months old now and there are no signs that it will end any time soon. All the efforts made in Beirut and Damascus and all kinds of Syrian pressure have failed to end this conflict which has grown worse in the last few days. Palestinian artillery emplacements in the mountain have interfered in the conflict several times recently. They pounded the southern suburb and the areas around the camps this afternoon. Observers fear that the camps war might create new combat lines in West Beirut just as the battles between Amal personnel and Palestinians have done.

Another attempt will be made to stop these clashes today during a meeting in Damascus between Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri, and representatives from the Palestinian National Salvation Front.

In the turmoil of statements emphasizing Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion, the daily fighting in the Burj al-Barajinah and Al-Rashidiyah camps remains an indication of the deep rift between the parties in the dispute. In addition to the clashes which took place early this morning, the security situation in the Burj al-Barajinah area erupted at 1330. Rocket launchers are being used in the fighting, and the resulting explosions are reverberating in Beirut and its suburbs. Artillery emplacements in the mountain interfered in the conflict at 1345. The artillery explosions are now mingled with the sound of thunder.

One person was killed and 11 others were injured during the violent fighting which took place along the Burj al-Barajinah combat lines this morning. Tanks and mortars were used in the clashes. The Amal Movement accused the Palestinians of opening sniper fire at the main roads leading to Beirut airport, leaving a number of casualties. Palestinian sources said that violent clashes involving the use of flat trajectory artillery and mortars took place at 0530.

Amal Threatens To Retaliate

NC171608 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The Fifth Section of the Amal Movement's Central Military Bureau has released the following statement:

For 2 days now, the southern suburb has been shelled by Palestinian artillery emplacements on the mountain, particularly those in Ra's al-Harf, 'Aytat, Shimlan, Al-Ma'rufiyah, and Duhur al-Shuwayfat. We have been in constant touch with the parties concerned in a bid to stop the barrage, but the Palestinians went too far this afternoon in their assaults on our people in the southern suburb, which produced a colossal number of civilian casualties. For all these reasons, the Amal Movement warns the Palestinians in the mountain area that, should these attacks continue, it will retaliate in accordance with its legitimate right to defend those in the southern suburb.

Amal Accused of 'Escalating' Situation in Camps

NC171839 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] A responsible source in the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF] has made the following statement: Despite the contacts to end the crisis involving Burj al-Barajinah, in the face of all efforts to halt the bloodshed and spare the sons of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, and in light of the agreements concluded between the PNSF and Amal, we were surprised by the movement's decision to suspend its membership in the camps coordination committee. It was as if the parties that have been harmed want the deterioration to continue. They have stepped up their artillery and rocket attacks on Burj al-Barajinah, which has been under assault since the start of the month, killing and wounding more people in the process.

The PNSF's declaration accused the Amal Movement of escalating the situation by infiltrating the camp's perimeter this morning, and using fuel in an attempt to burn and destroy homes there. This proves that the Amal Movement has no desire to bring things back to normal. It is actually preparing to apply pressure, and abort the joint meeting to be held in Damascus to establish firm foundations for Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

Government 'Studying' U.S. Sanctions, Ties

JN142135 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] The United States Government has embarked on a new hostile, provocative step against Syria within the framework of the desparate U.S.-Israeli-British campaign of lies and pressure to force Syria to deviate from its struggle course that rejects the Camp David course and relinquishing any inch of the occupied Arab territories or any usurped Arab right.

The White House spokesman announced the so-called sanctions President Reagan's administration decided to impose on Syria, including the abrogation of the air transportation agreement, the reduction of the number of the U.S. Embassy employees in Damascus, the imposition of restrictions on a number of U.S. exports to Syria, and an embargo on visits at senior level between the two countries.

The Syrian Government is studying the U.S. Administration's position and its impact on bilateral relations between the two countries.

Damascus: U.S. Sanctions 'Hostile,' 'Provocative'

JN151451 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Yesterday the U.S. White House issued a statement imposing so-called sanctions against Syria for its alleged connection with terrorist acts. The measures which President Reagan's administration has decided to implement against Syria cancel the civil aviation agreement which had no practical effect on the ground, impose controls on exports and imports, ban high-level visits between the two countries, and reduce the U.S. Embassy staff in Damascus. What is important about these measures is not their practical effect because it is well know that no measures can effectively influence Syria's willpower. What is important about them is that they express a U.S. desire to strain relations with Syria and fabricate stands which do not at all help find appropriate Middle East atmospheres conducive to searching for a just peace. These measures also contravene many past U.S. allegations regarding the United States' efforts to improve relations with Syria.

The U.S. White House's measures against Syria are hostile and provocative. They reveal to the whole world the side standing behind the campaign of provocation, instigation, and slander against Syria on which Thatcher's government has embarked. The allegation associating Syria with terrorism is baseless and neither the United States nor Britain or others can provide anyconvincing evidence of this connection because Syria is in principle against all forms of terrorism. Syria itself has been exposed to criminal acts and Syria has in many cases stood by the side of the victims of terrorism, including a large number of Americans, and extended aid to them. Such a Syrian stand was praised by more than 160 U.S. Congressmen.

The allegation that Syria is connected with terrorism is baseless, especially since those who are resorting to Goebbels' methods to delude people into believing in the presence of such a connection are themselves the ones who practiced and are practicing terrorism on the level of state policy. It is the United States which financed and armed Israel's terrorism in the Middle East. It is responsible for the terrorism on which Israel embarked in the region.

What does the United States want? By its pressures and threats as well as its psychological warfare against Syria, the United States wants to influence Syria's national decision and make it deviate from its militant pan-Arab course and its policy against the Camp David line because Syria is strongly adhering to the Arab nation's right to liberate every inch of the occupied Arab territory and regain every usurped Arab right. They want to remove the insurmountable obstacle which obstructed the implementation of the U.S. schemes to impose its will on the Arabs, subjugate them, and force them to capitulate to Israel. This insurmountable obstacle is Syria. However, Syria — as President Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly said — sticks to its militant line and pan-Arab commitment regardless of efforts and sacrifices. It does not retreat under pressures, does not fear threats, and does not dread psychological warfare. The cause which Syria is defending is just and honorable, and what the United States is trying to attain is injustice and encroachment on the peoples' right to self-determination. We do not think that any U.S. Administration has harmed the U.S. name in the region, ruined U.S. relations with the region, and curtailed the U.S. influence in the region as much as President Reagan's administration has done.

USSR Deputy Defense Minister Praises Army

JN141824 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] In Damascus, Army General Yevgeniy Ivanovskiy, Soviet deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Soviet Ground Forces, has paid tribute to the high level of combat preparedness and morale of the Syrian Arab Armed Forces. He added that the Syrian officers and soldiers were able to absorb the complex sophisticated weapons and the war tactics as they are shouldering a grave responsibility for the destiny of their people, country, and the Arab nation. He said that he sensed this during the visits he made to some Syrian troops and units and through his meetings with officers and soldiers.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, the Soviet deputy minister of defense said that his current visit to Syria falls within the framework of the Soviet-Syrian military cooperation.

The Soviet official condemned the campaign of falsehood and deception led by Britain against Syria and said: This campaign is a pre-planned provocation.

The Soviet deputy defense minister viewed the Reykjavik summit between Soviet leader Gorbachev and President Reagan and said: Moscow has proven to the world and to the U.S. Administration at that summit that it is sincerely pursuing a radical change in the international situation in a bid to make tangible steps in the area of arms disarmament and ridding the world of the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. He added that his country has left the doors open for the resumption of the talks which were suspended at Reykjavik, and that if Washington goes ahead with the implementation of the Star Wars program Moscow will then be forced to take appropriate measures.

Departs 15 Nov

JN152011 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 15 Nov (SANA) — Army General Yevgeniy Ivanovskiy, Soviet deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of the Soviet Ground Forces, and the accompanying delegation left Damascus today. Upon departure, he was seen off by General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff, in addition to a number of senior officers and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

Lebanon's Birri Addresses Trade Union Conference

JN171020 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1027 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Speech by Lebanese Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri at the 21st conference of the General Federation of Trade Unions at the Al-Fayha' Hall in Damascus — live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We in the Amal Movement declare our stand very clearly as follows:

1. The Palestine question is important to all the Arabs and Muslims and it is in the heart of our charter and action. [applause] Our relationship with the Palestinian people is a pan-Arab and militant one no matter how much the symbols o apostasy try to undermine it.

2. Our objection to the return of past Palestinian presence means rejection of a certain practice which only led to Israeli occupation of the south without any resistance.

3. The security of the camps is part of the national security and 'Arafat's proposal in this regard encroaches on the entire national Lebanese decision. The weapon used to cut off the road to the south and end resistance and the weapon used to deepen the sectarian rift cannot be classified as one of liberation.

4. The security of the south is a national responsibility assumed by the Amal Movement as part of a national agreement sponsored by Syria until liberation is attained and until the national Lebanese legitimacy spreads its sovereignty over every inch of the territory.

5. 'Arafat is dragging the Lebanese and Palestinian people into an Israeli trap. He is constantly working hard to explode the situation against Syria. Hence, the responsibility to confront him and topple his schemes should not be confined to one Lebanese faction or side. It is primarily the responsibility of the Palestinian people and their national factions. Therefore, we basically appeal to the brothers in the Palestine National Salvation Front and stress that this Front should only play a national Palestinian role in alliance with Syria and the national Lebanese forces. Otherwise, it would certainly be involved in championing 'Arafat's logic , particularly in the camps, and forced to cover him politically.

6. We call for a Lebanese-Palestinian agreement giving the Palestinians residing and working in Lebanon the same rights and duties given to the Lebanese in all spheres except Lebanese nationality, according to clear legislation which takes into consideration the interests of the two peoples and cancels any other agreement. We agree to brother Walid Junblatt's proposal in this regard.

Mr President, Israel has realized that we have such a resistance in the south and western Al-Biqa' that cannot be contained or circumvented because this resistance seeks confrontation and not negotiation and seeks to cancel conditions and not to reduce them. This resistance attained victory though sacrifices and through the slogan banning cooperation with Israel as declared by Imam Musa al-Sadr. Thus, the Israeli era is rejected and this gives prominence to the Arab dimension of resistance because it is a resistance of the policy of capitulation and suspect bargains and an exposure of those who fear the honor of promotion to the level of resistance. Despite the Israeli terrorism and devastation of our villages, we insist on the following principles:

1. The rejection of the Israeli security arrangements. We will never accept the Israeli security theory which knows no limit except expansion.

2. The implementation of the UN resolutions on the south, particularly Resolutions Nos 425, 508, and 509, and the spreading of the legitimate national Lebanese sovereignty over the whole territory.

3. The forestalling of Israel's plans to divide Lebanon into sectarian entities in order to enhance its control of the region.

We are always looking forward to your continued support for the resistance. In the meantime, we hope that the international community will play an effective role in the coming period in order to extricate Israel from Lebanon and help establish peace in it. We pin special hopes on the Soviet and French roles in urging the deploymnet of UNIFIL to the border and, consequently, in implementing Resolution 425.

Mr President, as Lebanon is today threatened by catastrophes exceeding its people's abilities and as dangers appear from all directions, we look forward to a Syrian role and Syrian assistance conducive to real salvation. This Syrian role enjoys Lebanese unanimity except the factions dealing with Israel which seek to fan the fire of civil war in order to burn what is left of Lebanon. A national Lebanese-Syrian cooperation within the framework of a national solution based on the three principles of liberation of Lebanon from the Israeli occupation and its extensions, the unification of Lebanon and its return to its Arab fold via Syria, and the adoption of a formula of rule based on justice, equality, and political reforms under which nobody dominates the other is the only way to extricate the country from its fumbling. The Syrian role has proven that it is the only one capable of helping effectively in this regard. On the occasion of the corrective movement's anniversary [in Syria], Lebanon is awaiting reform and correction. Peace be upon you. [applause]

Al-Asad Receives Birri

JN171825 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Nabih Birri, Amal Movement leader and Lebanese minister of justice and south and reconstruction, at 1315 today. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the state of affairs in the Lebanese arena.

Khaddam Meets Birri, Others

JN171309 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met at his office today with Lebanese Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt in the presence of Lebanese national party leaders, 'Asim Qansuh, 'Isam Mahayiri, Mustafa Sa'd, and George Hawi. After the 2-hour meeting, George Hawi said: The talks dealt with the Lebanese situation from three angles: First, the escalation of the U.S.-British confrontation against Syria and the Arab liberation movement; second, the internal Lebanese conflict which is becoming more violent resulting in the exacerbation of the sociopolitical crisis; third, the conflict raging around the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and the Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

George Hawi added: A comprehenisve agreement has been reached to tackle the situation among the Lebanese national forces by laying the foundations of a new national relationship thus outlining firm bases to bring an end to this abnormal situation which harms both the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples as well as the national cause in general. Hawi said: The agreement is completed. The national forces will close ranks to confront the political and military situation.

Yesterday evening, Khaddam met at his office with Birri and Junblatt for more than 2 hours. After the meeting, Nabih Birri made a statement to our radio in which he said that the talks dealt with the new developments in Lebanon particularly the battles raging between the Amal Movement and the Palestinian camps. Birri added: We also studied the results of the Israeli raid which took place yesterday.

Another meeting will be held at Khaddam's office this afternoon. It will be attended by the leaders of the national Lebanese forces and the Palestine National Salvation Front.

ADN: GDR Trade Union Delegation Arrives 15 Nov

LD151841 East Berlin ADN International Service
in German 1720 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 15 Nov (ADN) — A delegation of the National Executive Council of the FDGB, the GDR trade union organization, led by Harry Tisch, its chairman and member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee, arrived in the Syrian capital on Saturday to participate in the 21st congress of the General Federation of Labor Unions of Syria [FGSTS], which is taking place 16-20 November in Damascus. The delegation is taking up an invitation from 'Izz al-Din Nasir, president of the FGSTS and member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, who warmly welcomed the FDGB delegation at Damascus airport.

The representatives of the two trade union associations were in agreement in stressing that the participation of a delegation of the National Executive Council of he FDGB was evidence of the high standing of the friendly relations, lasting over many years, between the FGSTS and the FDGB, and that it was an expression of the desire of the two organizations to unite the forces of their trade unions for the preservation of peace and for social progress in the interest of their members.

Al-Asad Receives Tisch

JN171732 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1705 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 17 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received Harry Tisch, Socialist Unity Party of Germany Politburo member and chairman of the Free German Trade Union Federation, at noon today. The meeting was attended by 'Izz al-Din Nasir, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and president of the General Federation of Trade Unions, and the GDR ambassador in Damascus.

Tisch conveyed to President Al-Asad the greetings of GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker. President al-Asad asked Tisch to convey his greetings and good wishes to Chairman Honecker and to the friendly GDR people.

The discussion during the meeting dealt with the international situation and the state of affairs in the region, as well as bilateral relations.

Tisch stressed the GDR's support for Syria in its confrontation of imperialist conspiracies and Israel's threats. He also praised Syria's role in the region and in the world which enjoys the appreciation and support of the socialist countries.

President al-Asad expressed thanks to the GDR and the other socialist countries for their solidarity with Syria and for their condemnation of the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies that are hostile to the Arabs. President al-Asad reiterated that Syria will pursue its policy of hostility to imperialism and Zionism and will work for a just peace that will restore the occupied Arab lands and the usurped Arab rights to their legal owners, and that no force on earth can make Syria desist from its militant course.

DPA: Khaddam Interviewed on FRG, UK Ties

LD171524 Hamburg DPA in German 1451 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Hamburg, 17 Nov (DPA) — Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has recently denied his country's involvement in the terror campaigns in Berlin and London. In an interview with the daily *Die Welt* (Bonn), published on Monday, Khaddam expressed the hope that the trial concerning the attack on the German-Arab Society in Berlin would not impair the "good relations" between Bonn and Damascus.

Syria had "nothing whatever to do" with the events in Berlin, Khaddam stated categorically. He was hoping that "the Federal government will not walk into the trap into which London stepped." The Syrian vice president asked the British government to produce "proof" of Syria's involvement in the thwarted attack on an Israeli airliner.

In the 3-hour interview, Khaddam also rejected the accusation that the notorious Arab terrorist, Abu Nidal, had found shelter in Syria. Nidal had not visited his country since 1966 and did "not at all" maintain a training camp in Syria, Khaddam said. Syria also does not approve of Nidal's activities.

Khaddam, Yasin Receive Iranian Officials

JN172038 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1915 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this morning received Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, supervisor of the Islamic Propagation Organization, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian foreign minister for political affairs, and Mahmud Hashemi, Iranian Foreign Ministry director general. The Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

The discussion during the meeting dealt with the state of affairs in the region and the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the nationalist forces in the region. The Iranian delegation reiterated Iran's support for Syria in its confrontation of this onslaught.

Information Minister Yasin received the Iranian delegation in his office this evening. The Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Discussion during the meeting focused on the information relations between the two friendly countries and the need to promote them in all fields, as well as the exchange of information expertise and delegations.

For its part, the Iranian delegation praised Syria's steadfast stands under President Hafiz al-Asad and Syria's confronation of the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy being concocted against Syria and the region.

Arab League's Klibi, Algerian Foreign Minister Arrive

JN172121 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Damascus today. They were received at Damascus International Airport by Minister of Presidential Affairs Wahib Fadil; 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs; Hunayn Hatim, head of the Foreign Ministry's Arab Homeland Department; Hasib Ustuwani, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; and the Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Chedli Klibi said: On the occasion of this visit, coinciding with Syria's celebration of one of its national days, the anniversary of the corrective movement, I am pleased to congratulate the Syrian Arab people and President Hafiz al-Asad for their great achievements during the past period despite the heavy burdens shouldered by Syria in view of its basic role under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting imperialist hegemony and struggling for the retrieval of usurped Arab rights.

Klibi said that the stands adopted by Britain and the United States against Syria cannot be explained as being anything other than totally biased toward Israel and an attempt to weaken the Arab forces confronting Israel's expansionist policies. However, the proud Syrian Arab people are capable of withstanding all difficulties and overcoming the obstacles in the way of their struggle, he added.

The Arab League secretary general emphasized the need to strengthen Arab solidarity and bolster joint Arab action so as to conofront all the threats facing our Arab nation.

Klibi said: We are visiting Syria to implement the decision of the Arab League Council to hold the necessary consultations to convene an Arab summit as soon as possible.

Talas Addresses Military College Graduates

JN180824 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Homs — Within the framework of our people's celebrations of the anniversary of the blessed corrective movement and under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, the commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, the graduation of a new group of military college students was celebrated yesterday. General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, represented President al-Asad.

The celebration began by a 1-minute silence in honor of the righteous martyrs. Gen Mustafa Talas, the representative of the commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, addressed the graduates. At the beginning of his speech, he conveyed struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings, congratulations, and wishes of success to the graduates in performing their sacred national and pan-Arab duties.

Gen Talas said that Al-Asad's Syria has opted for the road of pan-Arab struggle and shouldered the Arab nation's burdens to confront its internal and external enemies. He added that Syria has resolutely and strongly confronted all the capitulatory schemes and the liquidatory plans, foiled them, contained their repercussions, and prevented them from achieving their objectives which are to impose hegemony on the Arab region and subjugate it to the ambitions of imperialists and Zionists.

Gen Talas said: In light of these brave national and pan-Arab stands which are based on the principles of our great party and the directives of the leader of our march struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, the forces of treachery and aggression, led by

Zionism and imperialism, searched for cheap means to undermine Syria's steadfastness, to harm its role in leading the pan-Arab struggle, and to distort its international reputation by smearing it with terrorism which is baseless and far from the truth.

Gen Talas added: It is regrettable to say that the enemies of Arab struggle would not have dared to adopt their disgraceful stands against the Arabs without the assistance of a handful of traitors and agents, who claim that they belong to the Arab nation and who submitted to the Anglo-American-Zionist scheme and contributed to creating a deteriorating Arab situation based on fragmentation — a situation which was created by the slain Al-Sadat and his successor Mubarak through their affiliation with Camp David, which was encouraged by the godfather of treason, the Moroccan king, and Iraq's executioner, Saddam Husayn, who wasted pan-Arab potential and fragmented Arabs in implementation of the schemes of his imperialist and Zionist masters. Talas said: However, the charlatan of the Palestine question, Yasir 'Arafat, who relinquished the Palestinian gun and disavowed the martyrs' blood through his panting after the Camp David train in an attempt to achieve his narrow personal objectives, has adopted a treasonous stand by igniting the security situation in the camps in southern Lebanon and by causing harm to Syria's national and pan-Arab role in the interest of his masters in Washington and Tel Aviv.

Gen Mustafa Talas added: Syria's enemies and those who are hatching plots against it have forgotten that Syria, under the leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, is standing fast in the face of the conspiracy, and that the campaigns of threats to use force will not be able to undermine our country's steadfastness and to prevent it from continuing its brave national and pan-Arab stands. He said that Syria will continue to adhere to its commitments toward our Arab nation and its fateful issues as was stressed by President al-Asad when he said that Syria is determined to confront the hostile onslaught with all means and methods. He added that Syria will continue to be ready to offer sacrifices to confront all imperialist conspiracies against the Syrian people and the Arab nation. He said that Syria will defeat the scheme which is being implemented by London and which is supported by its allies in Washington and Tel Aviv.

Gen Talas then addressed the graduates, saying: We are certain that the time you have spent in this lofty place, and throughout which you have learned military sciences, has provided you with a solid base, combat skills, experiences andideological values which will enable you to keep abreast with the march of international technological progress which is being made by military science, in order to achieve the highest degree of combat preparedness and the slogan of strategic parity with the Zionist enemy — a slogan which was raised by our struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad. [passage omitted]

Ba'th Party Official Returns From Nicaragua

JN140711 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus — Comrade 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Regional Command, returned to Damascus from Nicaragua this evening after leading the party's delegation to the celebratiosn marking the 25th anniversary of the Sandinist Front and the 10th anniversary of the death of its founder and national hero Carlos Fonseca.

During this visit, Comrade Qaddurah was received by the Sandinist Front leaders. He conveyed the greetings of the Ba'th Party under Comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad to the Sandinist leaders and the Nicaraguan people. The Sandinist leaders praised the Syrian Arab people's struggle under the leadership of Comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad and commended the relations between the Front and the Ba'th Party. They also praised Syria's firm, principled stand against the imperialist and Zionist schemes and strongly condemned the British Government's blatant antagonism toward Syria.

In a speech delivered at the mammoth mass rally held on the occasion of the Sandinist Front's anniversary, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega greeted Syria and its struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad as well as Syria's heroic confrontation of the imperialist onslaught.

Comrade Qaddurah delivered two messages from the Ba'th Party's National Command and the Progressive National Front to the Sandinist Front's leadership when he was received by the Nicaraguan vice president.

Pentagon Official Prefers Shipbuilding to Lavi

TA151235 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 15 Nov 86

[From the weekly "Spotlight" program]

[Excerpt] The project to build the controversial Lavi fighter plane was in the news again this week with the visit to Israel of Dov Zakheim, a senior Pentagon official who in the past criticized the project as likely to cost far more than Israeli estimates. While in this country, Zakheim met with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to discuss the Lavi and also plans to build missile boats and submarines for the Israeli Navy. Shortly before this meeting, Zakheim spoke to reporters at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. Steve Weizman was there:

[Begin Weizman recording] To a large extent Zakheim avoided questions on the Lavi project, preferring to concentrate on the naval acquisition program. In fact, it is widely believed that he wants to encourage Israeli spending on shipbuilding in order to leave less cash available for the fighter. When that question was put directly to him, he refused to confirm or deny it, saying he would not commenton speculation.

Reports concerning final U.S. cost estimates for the plane, he said, were also speculative, as the final draft of the General Accounting Office report on the Lavi was still incomplete. [passage omitted]

Zakheim says the U.S. has proposed over 30 alternatives to the Lavi, although he declines to give details. He is more forthcoming on the subject of the four advanced missileboats and three diesel-powered submarines, which the Israeli Navy wants. U.S. shipbuilders, he says, are keen to get involved in the project, although they would have to find a European subcontractor to build the submarines. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Rabin Wants More Money for Security

TA141145 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
14 Nov 86 pp 1,2

[Report by military correspondent Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] "It is inconceivable that a project like the Lavi project would depend on the defense budget alone. This project demands half a billion dollars annually of the defense budget. The Lavi is more of a contribution to the country than to security per se. For the IDF's needs there are cheaper alternatives to the Lavi." These remarks were made by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday. His speech to the Insurance Companies Association was sharp and uncompromising regarding his demand to increase the Defense Ministry's budget.

"This is the first time I am saying this publicly, but let me remind the government that according to U.S. law the aid Congress gives to Israel is meant to help shoulder the great security burden, not to raise the public's standard of living. The present fiscal year is the first year since the establishment of the country that the welfare budget is greater than the defense budget. I have a feeling that we have returned to the period best characterized by the biblical sentence 'But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked; you waxed fat, you grew thick, you became sleek'." Rabin added that the cries in Israel about the great security burden are exaggerated, and that the direct security budget (coming out of internal resources) is only 7 percent of the GNP.

Rabin added: "There has been no other defense minister who has made cuts like I have; the number of career Army staff went down by 10 percent and we are back to the situation of 1978 in terms of manpower. The number of combat units has also been cut. With great sorrow I had to cut the number of fighter planes, tanks, and artillery pieces. I have disbanded combat units in order to implement the cuts. Those who think that the IDF will not pay the price in its combat capability are sorely mistaken. Because of these cuts in units we must improve the quality of our manpower and advance research and development so that we do not stand accused in future."

It has also been learned that this year Syria is spending $1 billion more than Israel to build up its Army. This sum is from Syria's own internal resources, and is not included in the large Soviet aid handed to the Syrian Army annually. Rabin, who revealed this, also said that the Soviet Union is supplying Syria with all the significant weapons systems almost free of charge, as the United States used to do for us in the past. Rabin said: "I suggest we take seriously the efforts of Syria to strengthen its Army. Syria spends more than half of its budget for its Army. At present there is calm, and this calm is preventing a war. The situation in the Arab world makes it easier for us and places Syria by itself as a potentialenemy for Israel."

Iranian Extremist Effort To Halt U.S. Contacts Fails

TA171935 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Knowledgeable Western sources have said that the attempt by the extremist faction in Iran to stifle the contacts between the government in Tehran and the United States have failed. The sources have told our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari that the leaks on the arms deals carried out via Israel were initiated by a group headed by Ahmed, Ayatollah Khomeyni's son. However, a change in President Khamene'i's position has, at this stage, resulted in the victory of the rival faction, the one headed by Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani. This faction believes not only in the resumption of ties with the United States, but also in returning thousands of Iranian expatriates who have fled to other countries and objects to the demands that the Iranian economy be nationalized. The sources added the Lebanese Hizballah Movement, which has been holding the hostages, is linked to the moderate faction in Tehran.

Shamir Refuses To Inform Knesset on Iran Arms Deal

TA171922 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpts] In an appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today, the prime minister refused to report on the arms deal with Iran, saying: It is customary in democracies that the public must know things, but this is just the general rule, which has exceptions, such as in the case of the deal with Iran. [passage omitted]

[Begin videorecording] [Correspondent Elimelekh Ram] The prime minister heard the committee members express their frustration over being deprived of information on the arms deals with Iran, but Shamir did not budge. Even in a democracy like ours, said the prime minister, certain matters must remain confidential.

[Shamir] There is a rule in Israel, which has been observed formany years: We do not publish anything official on arms sales. I believe the rule must remain in effect. [passage omitted] [end recording]

MA'ARIV Views Criticism of Reagan on Iran

TA160940 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
16 Nov 86 p 10

[Editorial: "Reagan in Distress"]

[Text] President Reagan's public admission that the United States supplied Iran with limited quantities of arms exposes him to bitter criticism from all directions. Although Israel is not involved in setting U.S. policy — the President did not mention us at all in his address — there is room for fear that at least some of that criticism will affect Israel.

We have nothing to worry about regarding those opponents of Reagan's policy who argue that in transferring arms to the Iranian side of the Persian Gulf war, the United States adopted an anti-Arab line, thereby losing what remains of its influence over the moderate Arab states led by Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Experience has taught us that this "influence" was, more often than not, on paper alone and did not prevent U.S. interests in the Middle East from being harmed. It even failed to guarantee support for the U.S. position on resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Nor should Israel worry about the criticism of the President maintaining that the United States forsook the principles of justice and honor, which should have been its guidelines, by assisting a regime that had held U.S. diplomats hostage, humiliating them abysmally.

From our point of view there is a certain logic in wanting to see Iran stronger in its war against Iraq at this moment, as the "war of succession" rages in Khomeyni's land, for the regime in Iran could take on a different shape.

Yet we appear in a slightly less favorable light when the argument is against paying for aggression and kidnappings. This is a most sensitive issue. Both Israel and the United States are publicly giving a lot of thought to this subject, and it is difficult to find cut and dry solutions.

Morning Press on Arms Supplies to Iran

TA180621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0430 GMT 18 Nov 86

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Davar* writes that one can certainly find faults in the entire affair of the arms deals with Iran, which were carried out in devious ways. However, beyond this there is definitely justification for the attempt by President Reagan and his advisers in the National Security Council to seek ways to improve relations with Iran. Despite the tricks of Ayatollah Khomeyni, Iran continues to have enormous strategic importance. Although it is unclear whether Iran will be free of fanatical religious regimes in the post-Khomeyni era, it seems that despite the loud and jarring criticism the majority of the United States' allies share in this interest that the United States and Israel have.

Hatzofe writes that Israel continues to officially declare it is not sending arms to Iran, but the international media are full of copious reports on such arms transfers. It may be that arms are sold through mediators rather than directly. The paper adds that the secret move by the U.S. Administration to supply Iran with a small quantity of weapons triggered public criticism in the United States again after President Reagan's speech, and surprised moderate Arab countries that fear the Iranian danger. Lack of trust toward the United States is the result, and this presents a difficult problem for U.S. policy.

Soviet Attitude on Refuseniks 'More Open, Positive'

TA171715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] At the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting today, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that the Soviet authorities have recently been displaying a more open and positive attitude toward immigration refuseniks, though there has been a hardening in the attitude toward the Jews held in prison there. Mr Shamir noted however, that we must wait and see how the change in the authorities' attitude toward the immigration refuseniks is manifested.

USSR Reportedly Supplies SS-23 Missiles to Syria

TA181124 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
18 Nov 86 p 17

[Report from France by Arnon Yafe]

[Text] Paris — The USSR has recently supplied Syria with surface-to-surface SS-23 missiles. This is reported by the French weekly *Le Point*.

The 400-km range missiles can hit any target in Israel.

The weekly also reports an uprising by Syrian Air Force officers against Al-Asad's regime. The coup attempt compelled Al-Asad to rush forces from northern Lebanon to Damascus in order to guard his isolated palace.

Reporters said that there is tension in Damascus between the two intelligence heads General (al-Khuli) and General ('Awda).

Austrian Official: No Change on Emigrant Policy

TA161041 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
16 Nov 86 p 2

["Exclusive" report from Vienna by Tova Tzimuqi]

[Text] The Austrian Government has not changed its policy of granting assistance to Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union en route to Israel. Austria is prepared to receive any number of emigrants from the Soviet Union and allow them to stay on its soil temporarily.

This was stated by Dr (Erich Kosbach), one of the most senior officials in the Austrian Foreign Ministry, in a meeting with Israeli journalists in Vienna. He firmly denied rumors spread recently regarding a change in Austria's attitude toward Jews in transit from the Soviet Union.

According to Austrian Foreign Ministry data, in the first 10 months of the year only 756 emigrants from the Soviet Union passed through Austria, compared with 1,000 in 1985 and 8,000 in 1984. According to official statistics, 261,733 Jews have passed through Austria since 1968.

The Austrians are currently aware of approximately 100 Jews who had left the Soviet Union and want to go back. Most of them are elderly people or children in a severe economic situation or suffering physical hardships. The Soviets have refused to grant most of them entry permits.

Egypt's Ghali Wants 'New Momentum' in Peace Process

TA160954 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
16 Nov 86 p 5

[Report from Lome, Togo by Tamar Golan]

[Excerpt] Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, says that his country is concerned about the current freeze in the Middle East peace process and adds that he would like to see a "new momentum."

Interviewed by *Ma'ariv* in Lome, where he heads the Egyptian delegation to the Franco-African summit, Ghali said: "The peace process has come to a halt since the Alexandria summit between President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres." Replying to a question on how it would be possible to achieve this "new momentum," Ghali said: "It is necessary to revive the initiative toward an international conference, as Mr Peres accepted in Alexandria. We sincerely hope that he has not gone back on the understanding reached between him and Mubarak." [passage omitted]

Steering Team Set Up for Tabah Arbitration

TA180726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Israel has set up a steering team to instruct its representatives on the Tabah arbitration issue. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the team includes the directors general of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry, the Cabinet secretary, and representatives from the Defense Ministry, the Justice Ministry, and the IDF. The arbitration on Tabah will begin on 8 December.

Reportage on President's Trip to Asia, Pacific Area

Singapore Expresses 'Regret'

TA171949 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The Indonesian Government, which is the government of the largest Muslim nation in the world, today expressed its regret over President Hayim Herzog's planned visit to Singapore. The Indonesian Foreign Ministry announcement states that the president's visit to Singapore will not help unite ASEAN, which is an organization that unites the six countries in Southeast Asia. Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, and the Philippines are all members of this organization. Malaysia has already come out with a sharp statement against the president's visit to Singapore, and recalled its ambassador for consultations.

Mr Herzog is expected in Singapore tomorrow for a 3-day visit. This will be his last stop before his return to Jerusalem. Today, the president was the guest of the Jewish community in Hong Kong. Our envoy Yig'al Goren reports from there on the telephone:

[Begin videorecording] The pressure applied by Malaysia against Singapore over the last few days to cancel President Herzog's state visit, including the fact that it recalled its ambassador for consultations, has yielded no fruit. Tomorrow, the president departs for Singapore as planned, where he will confer with state leaders. Today the president held a brief visit to Hong Kong, described as absolutely private. In the course of his visit, the president toured the Chinese border, but in order not to ascribe to this visit any political import, the hosts made sure journalists were barred from covering the tour. At the end of his visit to Singapore, the president will return to Israel, and that is scheduled for the end of the week. [end recording]

Relations With PRC 'Inevitable'

TA180535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Speaking in Hong Kong last night, President Hayim Herzog said relations between Israel and the PRC were inevitable. The president made the remarks on local television.

Herzog is in Singapore today, on the last leg of his Pacific tour. Security for the president's visit is reportedly extremely heavy. Neighboring Malaysia and Indonesia have protested Herzog's visit, and many Muslims in the two countries oppose the visit as well.

Discusses Aid With Tongan King

TA161035 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
16 Nov 86 p 1

["Exclusive" report by Gid'on Alon]

[Excerpt] Townsville — [Passage omitted] The possibility that Israel will supply the remote island of Tonga, still greatly untouched by civilization, with Arava aircraft and Dabur naval vessels was discussed in President Herzog's meetings with the king. It was agreed that a special adviser will soon be dispatched to discuss expanding cooperation between the two countries. Tonga is primarily interested in experts who will help develop water irrigation sources and pesticides. The Tongan crown prince plans to visit Israel in January. The prime minister of Tonga told the president that Saudi Arabia had offered substantial financial aid and Libya had pledged to supply unlimited quantities of oil if Tonga would sever its diplomatic ties with Israel, but the prime minister rejected the Arab pressure.

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks

TA170543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Ecuador's President Leon Febres Cordero hopes to make an official visit to Israel very soon. This according to his Foreign Minister Edgar Teran, who arrived here yesterday. Teran said relations between the two countries were extremely warm and friendly, and he said there were also military ties. Recently, in its annual report, the Tel Aviv-based Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies said Israel had sold combat aircraft to Ecuador. The foreign minister's agenda includes a visit to the Israel Aircraft Industries. He is also scheduled to have talks with Prime Minister Shamir, Foreign Minister Peres, and other government officials.

Cairo-Amman Bank To Open West Bank Branches

TA171256 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
14 Nov 86 p 1

[Text] *Al-Nahar* has learned that in the wake of the renewed operation of the Cairo-Amman Bank branch in Nabulus as the first Arab bank to reopen in the West Bank since 1967, the bank is expected to begin opening branches in other West Bank towns such as Hebron, Ramallah, and Janin. This move is expected to be launched at the start of the coming year, to coincide with the implementation of the 5-year development plan for the West Bank.

Informed sources have noted that contacts are currently under way between Jordan's Central Bank and other Jordanian commercial banks to undertake similar steps.

MK Dinitz: Answer to U.K. 'Sufficient'

TA151155 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 15 Nov 86

[From the weekly "Spotlight" program]

[Excerpt] This week the Israeli Government finally admitted that Mordekhay Vanunu, who allegedly published Israel's atomic secrets in the London *Sunday Times*, is being held in an Israeli prison, awaiting trial. Israel also assured Britain that in bringing him here, British law had not been violated. Reporter Jack Katzenell asked Labor Knesset Member Simcha Dinitz, a member of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, whether these statements were adequate to still the intense speculation surrounding the Vanunu affair:

[Begin recording] [Dinitz] No country in the world discloses the manner and the matters in which its secret services are operating, and I don't think it can be expected of Israel. You know, it reminds me, sometimes when I hear voices in Israel say: How was this brought about, should he have been brought about. If, for instance, Great Britain, I am sure, was able to put a hand on one of her spies that has been defecting to another country and would have been brought to trial to England, the House of Commons probably would have cheered Mrs Thatcher in a standing ovation for half an hour. I don't expect a standing ovation from the British Parliament, but I would imagine that we should deserve equal treatment.

Now, with regard to your question on the public's right to know how he was brought about: I think it is sufficient for the public to know, and for our government to say, and for the British Government to know, that no law, no international law, no sovereignty was violated. And that, I think, was assured by the government and that should be sufficient. How exactly he came about, that probably is a story that is very colorful for the press, and I don't blame you at all, and the other newspapermen, for trying to find out. But when there are interests of security that prohibit the revelation of such details then it should be respected.

[Katzenell] In view of the developments inside Britain at present, is there not a danger that this incident will cause some kind of lasting damage to (?British)-Israeli relations?

[Dinitz] I entirely don't believe so. I don't think we have any problem with the British Government. The British Government asked some questions and promptly got an answer. I think the main inquiries and curiosity comes from the British press, as it comes from the Israeli press, as it comes from press all over the world. That's their job. It's a good copy, as they say. And also, from some members of Parliament who have not been known as great friends of Israel anyhow, and if they have an opportunity to put some question mark about Israel's activity, they do this. They did it in the past, they do it now. But that doesn't compel either the policy of Israel or that of Great Britain, and I haven't noticed any strain or breaking or crisis in the relations between our two countries. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Leftists Say Meetings With Palestinians To Continue
TA180840 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] Members of the left-wing delegation that met recently with PLO representatives in Romania announced yesterday that they would hold further meetings with Palestinians in the near future.

"We consider ourselves to be the Israeli version of the American ping-pong delegation to China," delegation head Latif Dori told a Jerusalem press conference. "A journey of a thousand leagues begins with one step; we believe we have made this step, and that many more people will follow."

Dori said that in accordance with the agreement reached in Romania on continued dialogue, "we hope the next delegation will leave in the very near future."

Meni Barzilay of the East for Peace movement, which did not take part in the Romania meeting, said his group was in the advanced stages of planning cultural and intellectual conferences with Palestinians, including representatives of the PLO.

None of the spokesmen were willing to specify when and where the next meetings would be held.

The press conference was briefly interrupted by Tehiya Party activist Avi Farhan, who blamed the delegation for inciting Palestinian terror attacks such as the killing of the yeshiva student in Jerusalem on Saturday.

Further Details on 17 Nov Air Force Raid
TA171912 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] A two-story building that served as headquarters of the Popular Struggle Front, one of the smaller Palestinian terrorist organizations, was destroyed in this evening's Air Force raid in the Sidon area. The building was hit by nine missiles fired by the three Israeli helicopters. The terrorists in the region fired ineffective antiaircraft fire during the raid, which lasted 10 minutes. Four Palestinian terrorists have been wounded. Damage was also caused to a nearby Lebanese Army camp. This was the second time the IDF operated against terrorist objectives in the Sidon area [this week].

Top Shin Bet Official Resigns After Controversy
TA170815 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 0505 GMT 17 Nov 86 p 1

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpt] The top-ranking Shin-Bet executive who manipulated evidence and suborned witnesses while serving as a member of the Zore'a Commission on the Bus No 300 killings, is leaving the Shin Bet, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Well-placed sources told *The Post* that the executive, who was granted a presidential pardon and whose subsequent promotion was the subject of public controversy, recently tendered his resignation.

The sources added that six weeks ago the newly appointed head of the Shin Bet told the executive that he would eventually have to leave the service. [passage omitted]

Shamir's Popularity Stable; Peres' Declines
TA141220 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Nov 86 p 1

[Text] The results of the first poll conducted following the rotation indicate that Shamir's prestige remains stable, whereas Peres' popularity has suffered somewhat. The public opinion poll was conducted by the PORI Institute at the invitation of *Ha'aretz*.

Approximately 41.4 percent are satisfied with the performance of Yitzhaq Shamir as prime minister, whereas 42.1 percent were satisfied with his performance as foreign minister.

Approximately 57.2 percent are satisfied with Shim'on Peres' performance as foreign minister, whereas 63.6 percent were satisfied with his performance as prime minister shortly before the rotation.

Defense Minister Rabin continues to be the most popular minister, although there has been a slight decrease in his popularity; 68.3 percent are satisfied with him now in comparison to 71.9 percent before the rotation.

Contrary to this the prestige of Finance Minister Nisim has gone up sharply since the rotation. At that time 24.8 percent were satisfied with him, whereas now 42.3 percent are satisfied with his performance as finance minister.

The poll included a representative sample of 1,200 men and women interviewed individually in all parts of the country.

E. Jerusalem Strike Protests Anti-Arab Violence
TA180918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] There is a partial commercial strike as well as disruptions in classes in East Jerusalem today in protest of anti-Arab violence in the wake of Eliyahu 'Amadi's murder. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

Large-scale police forces are patrolling both East and West Jerusalem today Last night the police detained seven of the rioters in the Shmu'el Hanavi neighborhood in Jerusalem. The head of the neighborhood committee said it is impossible to refrain from such riots as long as the Arab residents refrain from condemning the murder of Jews.

Knesset To Consider Second Television Channel

TA171519 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
17 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by Gabi Kessler]

[Excerpts] The Knesset begins consideration today of the 2d television channel law. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein will submit the draft resolution, which the Cabinet has already approved, to the Knesset for its first reading. [passage omitted]

The management of the 2d television channel hope that the legislative process will be completed within 2 months, so that as early as the beginning of 1987 preparation for the broadcast tenders can be launched. Immediately upon approval of the law, the management plans to request the Knesset's approval for the broadcasting of programs and movies, under supervision of the public council that will head the 2d channel. These preliminary broadcasts will be implemented before the tenders are complete — a process which will continue for about 1 to 1½ years from the day the law is approved in the Knesset.

Mitterrand Speech to Lome Summit 14 Nov

AB151351 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Speech by French President Francois Mitterrand to the 13th Franco-African heads of state summit in Lome on 14 November — recorded]

[Text] Mr President of the Republic of Togo, heads of state and of government, ladies and gentlemen: On the occasion of the opening of the 13th conference of French and African heads of state, I want to thank first of all President Eyadema [applause] as well as the Togolese people for the welcome and the hospitality they have accorded us in Lome. In receiving the president of France in this manner, it is as the representative of a friendly people who are happy to use this opportunity to reaffirm their feelings [words indistinct]. [applause] The choice of Lome is very meaningful because the name of this town symbolizes the cooperation between Europe and the African and Caribbean countries as well as South-South cooperation within the framework of ECOWAS. Allow me to make this personal reference: The choice of Lome also gives me the pleasure to see you again, Mr President, in your capital. You received me in 1983 so warmly, and I have not forgotten it. In you, I have found again a head of state who is listened to and whose friendship for France and whose commitment to the African cause cannot be questioned. I also found again the man who has been leading Togo for 20 years and who has been able to ensure its internal stability and to boost its external influence. Messrs heads of state and of governments, I highly appreciate the opportunity given me to pursue with you the [words indisitnct] established during our previous meetings. Our conference is always an important meeting, an informal meeting, without agenda, but it enables us to discuss freely among members of a same family the current problems of the world. Our friendship ties, our common heritage, and our views about the future as well as all [words indistinct]. This year, more than the previous years perhaps, we should, as you have done, Mr President, embark upon a lucid analysis of the world, both as it is and where it is going. Together, we should also map out new strategies to pursue to improve the economic situation and the security of the regions grouped in this conference. It is these topics I now want discuss with you.

Let us first of all talk about the economic situation [words indistinct]. The world economic crisis is far from its end, and yet, some few months ago, there was an optimism everywhere as you must have noticed during the Tokyo summit [words indistinct] a sustained economic growth of North America and the Pacific zone, where a fall in interest rates and a general reduction in the rate of inflation in the so-called Northern countries, a beginning in talks to reduce the currency fluctuations, an increase in awareness of the dangers of protectionism, as well as the problem posed by the the Third World debts. And yet, despite the fact that these positive factors still exist, the high hopes have reduced. The developed world remains confronted with its own problems and, in particular, that of underemployment. Big industrialized countries unable to reduce the imbalance in their budget and their external trade are facing the threat of having a serious reduction in their growth. Interest rates are (?climbing up gradually) and make loan repayments a heavier burden, while protectionism makes life difficult, thus making it more difficult for countries of the South to export their products to the North. The international monetary system is still undergoing strong disturbances. In 1 year, the yen increased by 50 percent in relation to the dollar and 17 percent in relation to the European Currency Unit. In the Third World, as you all know, the threats persist. The fall in the price of oil, which eased the burden of nonoil producing countries, [words indisticct] other problems, and sometimes dramatic, to the oil producing countries of course, in Latin America, the Middle East, and on your continent — Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, and so on. Variations in the prices of raw materials on the free market destabilize the economies of the countries that soley rely on these exports. And finally, with the reduction in international aid, several countries in the South have spent more money to service their external debts than they have received in new capital. The present world economic system demonstrates every day its inefficiency and its inequalities. It shows that there is less growth and more waste as well as less resources. The gap between the industrialized countries and the developing countries is growing [words indistinct] between the least developed countries where the per capita income is falling and the others that are beginning a consequent development, such as (?Thailand) China, Korea, Singapore, and even Brazil, which this year recorded the third largest trade surplus. Among the countries most hit by the crisis are our neighbors — the Sub-Saharan countries in Africa.

Their economic development has slowed down over the last decade. Their growth rate fell from 1.3 percent in the 1960's and 1970's to 0.8 percent in the 1970's and 1980's, whereas in all the developing countries, the rates were respectively 3.5 percent and 2.7 percent. As you may well guess, these figures are accompanied by numerous intolerable tragedies. If one is asked why these problems are specific to Africa, the reply will be, you, friends of Africa, have the answer to this question. Last year I stressed the importance of the resolution adopted on this issue at the OAU summit in 1985, and the words of the president of the Togolese Republic have highlighted the issue once again. This issue was further examined at the extraordinary summit of the UN General Assembly this year. It was the first session devoted to a single problem. It proved to what extent Africans themselves have taken their destiny into their own hands. Here I will pay tribute to the former OAU chairman, President Abdou Diouf, who called for this session, and to the current OAU chairman, President Sassou Nguesso.

In your speech you courageously gave your diagnosis of the situation. You criticized, and I quote: the poorly adapted strategies and economic policies, the inadequate management practices, the persistent low rate of productivity, as well as the cumbersome state structures and the influence of social values, practices, and behavior that hamper development. You did not hide the painful reality.

You are not responsible for all these problems since other economies, other than African economies, are suffering from the instability in the prices of raw materials and from the disorderly economic system of the industrialized world. Let us stress in particular that the fact that Africa specializes in the production of raw materials is dangerous in certain respects. For 31 African countries out of 47, raw materials, instead of constituting the life blood of the South — according to an expression of the (?Barre) commission — represent more than 70 percent of their export earnings, and yet over the past few years, export earnings have decreased due to the fall in prices of vegetable oils, coffee, tea, pineapples, and cotton — prices that are still fixed in the North on free markets. Now, when prices fall, it is difficult to finance one's budget. This leads to an increase in urban migration, and domestic food supply becomes insufficient for the people. There is flight of capital as well. As a result, Sub-Saharan Africa finds it difficult to accumulate the necessary savings to finance industrial projects that would benefit its economy. Africa lacks capital!

Added to these economic difficulties are, as you are aware, natural disasters such as the droughts of the past and the current infestation of crickets, which aggravate the problem of desert encroachment and force women and children to walk in agony for miles in search of food.

Finally, in addition to this problem is an exceptional financial crisis. No doubt Africa's external debt is smaller than that of other countries. It is nowhere near the record of the Latin American countries. Obviously their indebtedness represents only 27 percent of Africa's export earnings compared with 40 percent of Latin America's. This year, however, it will reach $12 billion. The only difference is that what is happening in Latin America [words indistinct] rescheduled because it was granted by multilateral organizations, it has been increasing rapidly. To the numerous African countries listening to me, the cost of loan reimbursement is higher than the amount of new loans contracted. Therefore, at a time when lenders and private investors are fleeing from Africa and at a time when the West is attracting the major surplus capital without reducing the imbalance, Africa's indebtedness has become the major obstacle to its development. How can these countries make their societies progress in view of this anarchy in the world economy?

There is no simple answer to this question. The current state of North-South relations makes it imperative to examine what has been jointly undertaken over the past few years and to think of what must be done tomorrow. That is one of the aims of our conference because for several years, at all international fora, France has been constantly pleading for a more serious approach to Africa's problems. It was the major impetus behind the creation of the special fund for Africa to supplement the efforts of AID. This fund spent $1.5 billion in 1986 and France, I must say, is proud to have played the role of a major contributor to the fund. One must not forget either that logically, France acted independently. I need to recall this fact.

When the decision was made in 1981 to give a major boost to French public aid to development, which subsequently increased from 0.36 percent of GDP to 0.55 percent 5 years later, the objective of 0.7 percent recommended by international institutions was to be reached as quickly as possible. In any case, we will not stop striving to reach that percentage. Just as I announced in September 1981 at the Paris conference that French aid to the underdeveloped countries would be increased by 0.15 of the GDP by 1985, this objective was reached in 1984 — a year earlier than expected — which places France at the head of the list of major industrialized countries. [Words indistinct] far from that, they are the Netherlands and Sweden, and this aid continues in 1986. I repeat that most of this extra effort was devoted to Africa while at the same time our aid, our bilateral aid, has increased between 1980-1984 by 45 percent. Aid to Subsaharan Africa has increased by 64 percent.

To help boost development, France has invested and concentrated its aid on agriculture, energy, and basic industry. Rural development in particular has received most of this aid, that is 35 percent from the Aid and Cooperation Fund and 45 percent from the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation.

Finally, we have increased our participation in multilateral aid agencies and have made precise proposals at yearly summits of industrialized countries for a war strategy against famine and drought in Africa.

These efforts are obviously useful and efficient, but they are not enough. It is feared that in the next 10 years, there will be an increase in the imbalances [words indistinct] if we are not careful, could lead to the worsening of the world crisis. On one hand, the financial [word indistinct] of certain Northern countries seems to give priority to the clearing of the budget deficit of other Northern countries instead of being used to satisfy the needs of the South and even certain necessary investments by the North. It is a strange parodox of the developed world. [Words indistinct] while in the South, the population growth is not slowing down. In Africa, the population increases by about 3 percent a year, despite the high rate of infant mortality, which we are all fighting against, and the low life expectancy rate. Agricultural production is growing slower than that of the population. If this situation continues, Africa, which now produces only 75 percent of its food needs, will only produce 60 percent of these needs at the end of this century. I am telling you all these things which you, as heads of state and government, know already. But it is sometimes necessary, as President Eyadema did and as I am doing now, to gather all these data. These explanations are perhaps long and sometimes difficult. They must be so, so that from time to time we can be focused on the realities of such evil and be in a position to find the necessary solutions. We must not forget that tomorrow's agriculture and industry will require the mastery of more complex techniques and that only countries that can devote a large portion of their national income to training and research can acquire and develop these techniques. The future of the countries of the South lies on the transfer of technology but this is not sufficient. The training system in Africa, in particular technical and professional training, is not progressing sufficiently and scientific progress is not propagated rapidly enough within the Africa society. Some heads of state and government often speak to us about this problem, whereas they have people who are sufficiently intelligent and capable of mastering these techniques. By nature, I am not a pessimist. Nothing can be achieved without the will to do so, without generosity and intelligence [words indistinct], but we must know that the 20th century will not end without further violence if we do not settle down and solve these problems together, with determination, solidarity, and enthusiasm. I have always said and repeated it, and I am repeating it again today, that two major dangers threaten humanity: underdevelopment and the nuclear threat. The two are interrelated because poverty generates violence and an increase in armament slows growth. I know people will tell me that the world has always has experienced such problems. However, I must say that the magnitude of these problems has reached a suicidal level today.

What a cruel irony of history! For the first time, man has the means to blow up our planet whereas at the same time he has found, through his own hard work, the means of feeding the entire world and curing it of diseases that were deadly in the past, as well as imparting to other men the benefits of knowledge. Which way must we choose, gentlemen? Which path shall we choose? The path of selfishness, which leads to the misfortune of all, or that of solidarity, which leads to peace and the sense of responsibility for each and every country on a world scale. It is our role to warn our people of these dangers and to propose to them the path of reason. That is why I say repeatedly that a portion of the future of the world will be what we shall build ourselves.

As for Africa, you are already taking care of your problems, and this is very good. Only last month, the ministers of economy and planning of several African countries met in Addis Ababa for an interesting session of the Economic Commission for Africa devoted to measures to be adopted to revive the continent's economic situation. You will have to make great efforts, and you have decided to tackle the problem with courage. Well, you must continue on that path.

We, the French, for our part, are prepared to plan and to build together with you a more just world, a more orderly world within the limits of our means. Apart from our global commitment that I referred to — devoting a portion of our gross national product to aid — we are prepared to intensify our assistance, in particular in the agricultural area, to concentrate our efforts on the poorest countries. We must not forget that France itself is being affected by the world crisis and that we have been asking our people to make a considerable effort. They are prepared to make their contribution. They will be expected to intensify their efforts in the areas of soil, water, and plant conservation, in accordance with the decisions made at the Silva Conference held in Paris at the beginning of this year, which outlined the major guidelines of this action. Emphasis will be placed on training and on the prevention of natural disasters. In this regard, France intends, with the help of satellites, to make special contributions to research on the phenomenon of desert encroachment and generally on natural potential. We are also committed to doubling in 5 years the aid that will be invested in this fight against desert encroachment. But no bilateral action, however large it may be, will be enough without North-South dialogue in general.

Drawing lessons from what has happened since the Cancun Conference a little more than 5 years ago, in view of the illusions, dreams, successes and their limits, we must fit our action in a context that will be as voluntary and general as possible because the problem of indebtedness cannot be settled merely by fixing a moratorium. There is need for a world vision of the financial and economic stakes for the North and the South, because the stabilization of the prices of basic commodities will depend on international coordination in the analysis of present and future markets. The volume and sharing of international aid itself also requires such an approach to establish a priority list of our needs, to broaden our efforts, and to define the quantities because, on the whole, the future of the whole world depends on that of the Third World. As Mario Soares said at the 40th anniversary of the FAO, if the Third World countries sink, we will all sink with them.

In fact, the majority of Third World countries, especially African countries, have adopted several measures and taken courageous initiatives. One cannot imagine the situation of the poorest countries, which are doomed to face economic stagnation over the next 15 years. Their sacrifices will be bearable if there is hope for the future, notably by a revival in the economic growth of the Northern countries and an increase in terms of trade. This is why I would like to give you the five solutions I envisage concerning action by the industrialized nations in favor of development.

First, the richest countries should ensure that there is increased and long-lasting growth by solving their own problem of structures and by reducing their deficit.

Second, they should increase their public aid to development, to states, and to international organizations, and they should direct this aid first and foremost to the poorest countries. Concretely, I wish to see the resources of the next IDA package increased to the $12 billion often requested, World Bank capital increased, and the world community directing half of the funds of the eighth IDA especially to Africa, especially Sub-Saharan Africa.

The third solution would be to open up markets. Indeed, of what use would increased aid be if the beneficiaries cannot sell their products on the markets of the developed countries under reasonable conditions?

The fourth solution is to stimulate one's imagination to find real solutions to the problem of indebtedness — a very difficult problem — so private and public loans at favorable conditions can once more go to feed the economies of the indebted countries.

Undoubtedly, when I think about it, I feel that a happier and a more promising future lies in the floating of these loans, but it up to the experts to think about it and start discussions.

The fifth solution is disarmament. President Eyadema has just quite rightly pointed out that all these current imbalances have been compounded by general overarmament. It is true that if only 5 percent of arms expenditures were devoted to development, the world would begin to free itself from misery and fear. France has made several proposals to this end, in addition to what I said 10 years ago before the UN General Assembly and which was recalled recently. France, on its part, is ready to talk about it.

Next year, we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Marshall Plan, which, after the war, was a true act of generosity, in the real sense of the word, on the part of the United States. I believe the time has come for the whole of the North to give alms, on a world-wide scale, in the mutual interest of the North and South. This is a stand that France has expressed on several occasions, and I, too, have expressed it, and it was repeatedly recently by the French prime minister. We can all think about it together between now and our next summit. I believe it will be a necessary rendezvous.

On the whole, who does not see the political consequences within individual states and the international community of our incapacity and that of the entire world to get all these stakes under control? Who does not see the threats that constitute political crises we must confront — the current areas of conflict such as Chad, Western Sahara, South Africa, and so on, or conflicts tearing other regions of the planet apart and harming East-West relations? African countries, I repeat, more than ever before need peace and security. Where will Africa be if all the borders of the countries composing it are to be changed because of small territories of this or that state? It will be the map of the whole of Africa that will explode. The answer to all these conflicts simply lies in the common sense that African countries should live in peace within their borders. The OAU is handling this very well, and I do not think that I could do any better.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay a second tribute to the indefatigable actions I have recently witnessed, and I would like to cite the names of Presidents Abdou Diouf and Sassou-Nguesso. France, in accordance with the charters of the United Nations and the OAU, shares these concerns and plans to contribute to the maintenance of the independence, unity, and sovereignty of countries. Some countries have concluded defense agreements with France; this is the case of the country that is receiving us, where France sent security forces as soon as its president requested it. Worldwide messages of support were received by President Eyadema, and they show the esteem his peers have for him and their endorsement of international law. French troops were sent to Chad, but we did not do this of our own volition; and in the present case, there was no defense agreement between our two countries, but if we did not have moral or legal obligations we did have political obligations toward Africa, just as we did toward this friendly country, which is making great efforts to achieve unity and redress. We have set up military operations known as "Manta" and "Sparrowhawks," which have proved to be particularly dissuasive. The day will come when this country — I am sure and I am at the same time expressing France's wish — will demonstrate the vanity of the maneuvers that are threatening it; the day will come when the patriotism of each of its sons will prevail over past quarrels. And when this day comes, we will clearly discover the origin of a conflict that has now become international. You may have noticed movement in the reconciliation, which has begun and which continues to be intensified. The adoption of a resolution at the last OAU summit calling for the reactivation of the ad hoc committee of mediation on the Chad-Libya border dispute seeks the same goal.

So many of you have spared no efforts! I would prefer not to cite such or such a name not to be unfair to others. Just recall the former and the incumbent OAU chairmen expressing their views on this; the missions entrusted to many of you; to the Congolese president; the moves initiated by the Gabonese president; and I will stop the enumeration here because there are many of you here who have played an active and decisive role. Similarly, in several countries — Togo, Ivory Coast — constant efforts are being made to reconcile the divided brothers. I am sure I speak for all heads of state present here in wishing that peace and freedom return to Chad.

Mr President, you mentioned the apartheid issue, a complex problem. It is easy to see the difficulties, because for several decades now, a minority of people have persisted in enforcing a system we believe is unjust. It is true apartheid must be condemned and it must disappear. We in France take pride in saying that we are the fatherland of human rights, and we cannot tolerate that a state be built upon segregation. And we have been protesting constantly for the restoral of human dignity in that area as well as elsewhere. We are not righters of wrongs. It is our hope that the future of South Africa will be determined by South Africans, all South Africans, without any segregation. Therein lies the problem, because the present rigid attitudes adopted by the dominating minority there can only generate increased violence and jeopardize the development and stability of the entire region. At the same time, this rigidity poses a problem of conscience for all men on earth. Everyone must know that repression, far from encouraging a return to calm, radicalizes the opposition and annihilates efforts of supporters of a peaceful solution. Everyone must know that peace can only come through national reconciliation, dialogue, and the liberation of political prisoners. Of course, I am refering to the symbolic name of Nelson Mandela. Peace can only be achieved through the unconditional recognition of representative organizations and the lifting of restrictions to liberties. France, along with its Western partners, made a number of decisions to this effect. After initiating Resolution 369 of the UN Security Council, it took a number of measures you know of. Finally, it prepared to increase its aid to the South African people in various sectors such as training, health, and legal assistance so, at long last and as soon as possible, these people can recover their dignity. Of course, assistance from the ruling minority of that country and from the neighboring countries will also be required. In principle we are in solidarity with these countries. I will not count the number of conflicts existing in the world, because there are too many of them. I do not want to prolong my speech.

On the Western Sahara conflict, you know that France intends to respect international law in accordance with the UN Charter and the right of people to self determination under international control; that is a simple rule of law. We do not want to impose ourselves as arbitrators in conflicts that have historical roots. We simply want the rights each side to be respected.

But the means for implementing this political and peaceful solution lie in negotiations between interested parties; and this is the prerogative of the United Nations and the OAU. I would not like to comment further on this; I have confidence in their wisdom.

Before I close, allow me to mention the fact that 1986, in our opinion, was marked by a very important stage in the development of a system that unites many of us — I mean the common use of the French language. During the meeting in Paris from 17 to 19 February 1986, 40 heads of state and government, who have in common the use of the French language, were able to draft some instruments that reflect a will to enhance their common heritage and add to the radiance of what President Senghor termed, and I quote: the universal civilization. We are legitimately proud of what the French culture represents in the world, but we know very well that the common use of the French language has a much greater significance — that is, the merging of the French culture and national expressions derived from the French language and their own cultures. A dictionary that has just been published will demonstrate the great contributions of countries like yours to our common culture.

But as North-South cooperation enters a new phase, we must now be the architects of the renewal ourselves. Nothing great will be achieved without a mobilization of enthusiasm; without exchange of ideas between our youth, our artists, our creative workers, our musicians and our intellectuals; nothing can be achieved without the cooperation of our businesses, trade unions, associations, and our non-governmental organizations. They are the only ones who are capable of inventing new forms and promoting constructive and fruitful exchanges with one another.

The youth of the world have truly rallied round a common idea of development, which raises great hopes for our leaders; this support is very important. So, it is up to us to prove ourselves worthy of such support. Let us be more attentive than we have been in the past to this youth, which is important on the continental level. Nothing can be done without cultures crisscrossing and enriching each other and without these new forms of universality being invented regardless of the ambitions of power and love of fortune.

My dear colleagues, nearly 4 years ago, I said in this very hall of the RPT — I would like to quote myself, excuse me for that — that the African Continent can become strong and free only if it withdraws from competitions that could tear it apart and shies away in advance from similar competitions elsewhere in the world. I would simply like to repeat what I said here, because it still holds. Our refusal, that of France and Africa, is the refusal of imbalances, injustices, which cause misery. Our desire is to do all we can to leave a freer, more serene and more welcoming world to future generations.

My speech at this solemn opening ceremony has been long to enable my words and those of President Eyadema to be heard outside this hall by the people of Africa and the people of the Third World. We do not always have the opportunity to express the basic ideals of our countries. This is what I am doing for mine. I am expressing the general desire of France and its government, and I believe I have the right to say that its historical mission could not be fulfilled, dear colleagues and dear friends, ladies and gentlemen, if I did not have such an appropriate forum for sincerely and [word indistinct] renewing our commitment, a forum such as the summit of heads of state of France and Africa here in the city of Lome, Togo.

Thank you. Long live France! Long live Togo! Long live Africa!

Chirac Interviewed on French Foreign Policy

LD151555 Paris Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Jacques Chirac by Ralph Pinto, special correspondent in Togo, in Lome on 15 November — recorded]

[Text] [Chirac] France ardently desires the restoration of Chad's territorial integrity, this country's independence and its peaceful development and is working toward that end. France is giving logistic support to the Ndjamena authorities, but it does not change — (?things being such as they are today) of course — and does not change the mission of its forces there.

[Pinto] So today, at this time, Epervier and nothing more?

[Chirac] No one mentioned anything else.

[Pinto] As regards cohabitation, joint management, coexistence — I do not know how to call this — how is it going? Is an agreement reached in Paris between the president of the Republic and the prime minister before you go abroad? Is this part of the task in hand, or does it all come naturally? Is there coordination which comes naturally?

[Chirac] France's foreign policy is not liable to change. It goes back a long time. It was conceived by General de Gaulle. It was he who set the main principles of it, drew up the foundations particularly through his personal and individual relations with the states which he himself had enabled to achieve independence. He was respected and loved by everyone. Based on all this, the policy has continued under various presidents of the republic. Consequently there is a continuity that rules out any difficulty in expressing our French policy on the occasion of a summit such as this.

[Pinto] There is one issue in France which remains a priority, that of all that is happening in the Middle East. Today Mrs Thatcher is in the United States. She finds herself alone. The Americans have delivered arms to Iran, they have said so. She did not have the feeling of being backed by the other Europeans in her measures regarding the Syrians. The Syrian vice president has expressed satisfaction at his excellent relations with the French. Is there any change on our part regarding the Syrians, the Iranians, the Lebanese? People no longer know for sure who has good relations with whom, and who has bad relations with whom.

[Chirac] First of all we find ourselves in an atmosphere which is very often impassioned. Do not expect me to fan the flames. Then there has been a European debate regarding the attitude of solidarity which the European countries were to adopt, on reasonable bases, toward terrorism. This debate was concluded by reaching unanimity, or almost because Greece alone did not share its conclusions. Finally, there is a French policy which I have already had the opportunity to define, a policy which has not changed. France is a country of dialogue, of peace which takes an interest in the Middle East and desires that the dramatic situations in this part of the world should be defused, that Lebanon should recover its independence and also its territorial integrity. France is working resolutely and steadily toward this end.

Eyadema Delivers Address at Lome Summit

AB151716 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema's address to the 13th Franco-African summit conference in Lome on 14 November 1986 — recorded]

[Text] Mr President of the French Republic, Messrs heads of state and government, Mr Prime Minister of the French Republic, Messrs heads of delegations, Messrs Ministers, Excellencies, Messrs Ambassadors, distinguished guests, militants of the Togolese revolution, ladies and gentlemen, our capital is particularly proud to host the summit of French and African heads of state, the importance of which I do not need to stress. In offering the hospitality of their modest city, the Togolese people would like to express their gratitude for the trust you honored them with by agreeing to come to their country. That is why they welcome you with their wishes of peace and good health, their deep feelings of solidarity, and why they invite you to feel at home here.

Please allow me to warmly thank you on their behalf, on behalf of their party, the Rally of the Togolese People, and on my own behalf for your choice of our country to host this summit, a choice we regard as the clear expression of the friendship your respective countries sought to show us. Messrs Presidents, by coming to Lome, you first of all sought to clearly demonstrate your attachment to the ideal which has always prevailed in all our meetings and which is the expression of our desire to strive to together consolidate, in all fields, the traditional bonds of friendship that history has woven between France and our continent.

These periodic meetings are all the more necessary because they offer us the opportunity, once a year, to meet to strengthen the dialogue which has become essential for our nations which already have so much in common, to exchange views on various issues that concern us, and compare our experiences and prepare adequate strategies to build a new world order which would preserve the ideals of peace, justice, and solidarity, concepts which are so dear to our countries. The Franco-African community, a club of exchange and reflection, remains the ideal framework within which, in an atmosphere of friendship, brotherhood, and active solidarity, we can strengthen our internal cohesion and cooperation in all fields.

Mr President of the French Republic, you are one of the most active advocates of this policy of exchange between France and Africa and one of those who, in early years, marked the history of the long march of our countries towards freedom. You remain the friend and the champion of our countries in international fora where the fate of the poor countries is decided and where their call remains unanswered. That is why I shall not miss this opportunity to renew, on behalf of my peers and on my own behalf, our gratitude for your action in favor of a new world order, an action appreciated by the entire Third World. [applause and cheers] I would also like to pay my respects to Jacques Chirac, the French prime minister, who has always shown great interest in the problems confronting the Third World. [applause and cheers] The great interest he shows for our countries is clearly seen through the encouraging attitude of his government for African and Malagasy affairs.

I would also like to present our respect to our doyen present here today, His Excellency President Felix Houphouet Boigny of Ivory Coast, [applause and cheers] for his great efforts to create a free and independent Africa, active in fostering international cooperation, and for his unwavering support for the rapprochement between France and our continent.

Messrs heads of state and government, ladies and gentlemen, as is now the tradition during our deliberations, we shall try to find ways and means to consolidate, in all fields, the results of the Franco-African meetings on cooperation. While exchanging views, our deliberations will be centered on current issues, notably, the great dangers confronting our continent as we approach the year 2000. Among these issues, economic problems, which are related to the security of our states, will also be thoroughly tackled. We share the concern for the creation of a new economic order that will benefit our countries and contribute to easing the military and political tensions. But at the same time, we are living in a world in which laws continue to add to the sufferings of thousands of starving underprivileged populations. Reviewing the difficulties facing our continent increases our concern and forces us to take stock of the various challenges we must meet if we want to build a society in which peace, justice, and happiness will prevail. But to face these difficulties, we must become aware of the fact that the solutions which could bring about some historical changes in view of achieving greater justice for two thirds of mankind are nowhere to be found and the situation has remained the same over the course of our various summits. That means that the proposed solutions are not suitable ones. In addition, we are lacking the will and the determination to implement our projects within an atmosphere of decreasing solidarity. This paradoxical situation once more proves the validity of our claim that the solution to the world crisis can only be achieved through an in-depth reorganization of the world economic system and not through targeted sectorial restructuring which provides only temporary relief to a problem which, if we are not careful, could become insoluble.

Certainly for Africa, which has continued to suffer from the effects of the international situation, the last 2 years have been markedly characterized by an improvement in the economic and food supply situation. The climatic conditions have been characterized by a good rainfall pattern, which is a factor in the revival of food production. At another level, the structural adjustments undertaken in almost all our countries through the sustained assistance of the World Bank and the IMF have brought about a slight improvement in the state of finances, which has benefitted from the fall in the value of the dollar and interest rates. It is also necessary to emphasize the favorable effect the fall in the oil prices had for countries that are potential petroleum importers, and the disturbances it caused in Third World countries that export oil. All of these factors have contributed to a timid internal economic recovery in most of our countries which immediately benefited from a slight growth.

This economic revival that is gradually taking shape in our country is however threatened in the short term by the persistence of a series of complex phenomena which we have not mastered. These include the world recession, the deterioration of the terms of exchange resulting from the collapse of prices of raw materials, the decrease in the real value of international public development aid, the increase in protectionism, the rise in interest rates, and, finally, the worsening of the debt burden, which is a great hinderance to Africa's economic recovery.

In fact, if all our states are having difficulties in honoring the servicing of their debts, consider that in just 4 years, payments in respect to debt servicing have risen from 18 to 26 percent of export earnings. It is easy to understand why some countries are at a loss as to how, in the absence of new national resources, they can continue to honor their debt commitments and to finance development projects. Truly, the debt problem has been crucial for a decade now and it has become the most important development problem because how can Africa undertake an economic revival while its debts amount to $175 billion and hinders all bold moves towards revamping its economy? More than ever before, our partners should be realistic and fair and grant our countries more affordable conditions to repay their debts in accordance with our meager resources. In doing so, Third World countries would be able to undertake a reorganization of their economic and would be able to use the aid granted to them by friendly countries to implement their priority projects. To this end, agriculture being the priority sector of the African economy, we should declare it to be the top priority and devote all our financial and human efforts to it. [cheers and slogans] The remarkable examples set by the United States of America and Europe, which first of all devoted all their efforts to develop the agricultural sector before beginning their industrial revolution, should be followed by developing countries. We should develop all sectors of agriculture.

In this year in which our continent is sadly represented throughout the world through images of millions of starving children and families destroyed by famine, we are expecting a miracle in our economy which could relieve these peoples. But this miracle will not be possible if we do not get down to work in our fields and make them blossom. Everybody knows about the immense potential the African countries, except a few, possess in this sector. We have farm lands and the manpower to cultivate them. Indeed, there are some calamities attached to all these blessings and they constitutes major obstacles to agricultural development. They are: drought, desert encroachment and, above all, the locusts that periodically plague Sahalian countries. But, nevertheless, we should continue to fight these foes in order to exploit our immense virgin lands and make Africa a vast garden that blossoms in all seasons.

To this end, the industrialized nations should try to increase their aid in this priority sector which was given the lion's share of attention during the United Nations special session on the continent's economic problems. We have always wanted, as the proverb goes, to be taught how to fish instead of be given fish when we need some. This assistance in agricultural sector, an aid we want to be very important, should provide fertilizers, well drilling equipment, and agronomic research facilities. This aid should also be increased in investments and the development of infrastructures in rural areas.

Ladies and gentlemen, at a time when Africa stands at the crossroads, it is absolutely necessary to seriously take stock of what has been done in order to determine the best ways to eradicate the calamities that are plaguing the continent. Our nations are the youngest of the world but the challenges we have to meet are formidable and time is running out. That is why many experts are of the opinion that we must achieve in three generations what the industrialized nations had three centuries to achieve. That is why our legitimate ambitions, upon achieving independence 26 years ago, were not realized through the progress we sought.

As far as we are concerned, in the excitement that followed the independence era, some mistakes were made and the policy of development was adapted to our countries. These mistakes in orientation were corrected or aggravated. One way of another, the direct or indirect consequences triggered the situation Africa is experiencing today, the results of which resemble the consequences of a world war. In a quarter of a century, we have not been able to escape this situation which gets worse and worse every day. To confront its effects, we suggest the establishment in Africa of an aid fund similar to the Marshall Plan, which would fulfill the expectations of our peoples. This plan would enable us to initiate international cooperation which would once for all free Africa from permanent dependance on outside assistance. This would be a bold move towards a gloabl policy of joint development. It should entice the international community to infuse a maximum of financial aid into African economies to support Africa's economic recovery program on the basis of the Lagos Plan.

We are convinced that support from the international community is necessary to set into motion, in the near future, on national, subregional, and regional levels, the active and autonomous mechanism capable of promoting the development of African states.This should be accomplished in order to make them full-fledged partners on the international economic scene. To this end, the efforts made by the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries associated with the European Economic Community [ACP-EEC] group, is very promising.

In fact, ACP-EEC relations, on which three conventions have already been signed, fall within a model framework of cooperation based on complementarity, understanding, and mutual respect and have already shown concrete results in the significant transfer of resources from European countries to African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries. But it is necessary to consolidate the action mechanism of the convention, especially the capacities of the STABEX [Export Stabilization Fund] and the SYSMIN [expansion unknown] whose resources have increased substantially between the Lome II and Lome III Conventions, even though our needs drastically exceed the volume of aid they are capable of providing. We know the extent to which France, faithful to its commitments, is playing a prominent role within the Lome Convention. Through the implementation of various cooperative ventures, France alone has contributed 23.57 percent of the financial resources made available to the ACP countries. In addition, the proportion of its GNP contributed to international assistance for the financing of development programs of developing countries will increase from 0.51 percent in 1985 to 0.54 percent in 1987. This is all the more commendable since France, itself, is caught in the torrent of the international economic crisis.

This assistnce to our countries demonstrates France's determination to strengthen, with each passing day, its contribution towards the realization of its policy of self-development. The special conference that the United Nations held this year on the disastrous state of the African economy asked that developed nations participate fully in the economic recovery of Africa. We believe that the recommendations made by that conference will be followed by acts. But even if the economic and social stagnation of Africa is far from being a problem for only the continent itself, we need, first of all, to seek indigenous solutions that focus specifically on Africa. As a result of our tardy development, our salvation depends upon our political will to associate ourselves in economic groupings as recommended by the Lagos Plan. Many landmarks have been established in this respect, as 16 countries of our subregion have, for the past 11 years, united their destiny within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS]. Similarly, the countries of Central Africa have created their own community, and the countries of other regions are also trying similar experiments.

These different subregional economic integration plans are harbingers of the great market, which will enable Africans to strengthen their cooperation, exchange their products among themselves, and together carry out economic and social projects. This will not be possible unless we bury our ideological differences and dedicate ourselves to the economic development of our continent, which alone can bring greater well-being to our populations.

Besides, whatever the politial options of our respective countries, is our common goal not to ensure the happiness of our peoples? Despite the foreign doctrines we have adopted and which have divided us politically, we share the same economic problems and it is in unity that we can better confront them. In this connection, we are pleased that the OAU has recovered its unity and cohesion following the troubled periods it has experienced.

Mr President and dear colleagues, the second group of problems of great concern to us — and which are also connected with the economic issues — concern the security of our states. Our world is currently experiencing a period of confusion and uncertainty and the efforts made by nations and peoples to ensure their happiness and progress are thwarted by the climate of international insecurity, violence, and tension. This persistent insecurity — which affects both the industrialized and the poor nations — demonstrates that our efforts to promote a harmonious development in our respective countries and strengthen international cooperation will be in vain unless our world recovers its equilibrium and the prevailing tensions end. The fratricidal conflicts, the cold war between the antagonistic ideological blocs, the arms race in which the big powers are engaged and which involves tremendous expenditures, and international terrorism represent a great danger for mankind and constitute an obstacle to the realization of the objectives of development in the Third World countries as well as in those of the northern hemisphere. In Africa, we need security and peace and order to assert our personality in the comity of nations, to redress our economies, and to create a common market which will turn Africa into a power to be reckoned with. But what are we now observing in our continent? A climate of tension and a proliferation of fratricidal conflicts which — from North to South and from East to West — are reducing the continent's chances of success in the search for its people's happiness.

In our continent, which has fallen prey to disorder, the greatest hotbed of insecurity remains southern Africa where our South African and Namibian brothers — who are the only peoples in the world to be oppressed in their own country — are demanding nothing more than the right to live in dignity, freedom, and justice. [shouting of slogans by party militants] In the face of the escalation of violence, persecution, and all sorts of repression in which the South African Government is engaged, only the pursuit of the economic sanctions decided by the international community against that country can compel the ruling minority to put a halt to apartheid. Although the Pretoria government is pointing towards some sort of improvement in the living conditions of the blacks only so that it can persist in its policy of oppression, the measures it adopted in the past few months under the pressure of international opinion are not significant enough to lead to the abolition of the system of apartheid. This is why we hail all the efforts undertaken by peace- and justice-loving countries against the Pretoria regime in conformity with the resolutions of the latest OAU summit conference and of the Nonalighed Movement. By uniting in solidarity with the South African blacks against apartheid, the international community has again demonstrated its severe disapproval of racial segregation which is a crime against mankind.

I would like to take this opportunity to salute France's decisive action in favorsof the blacks in South Africa through its support for their struggle and pressure against the Pretoria government to abolish the racist regime which is the cause of all the tensions shaking up that region of our continent.

The peace we wish for the blacks in South Africa is the same that we wish for the brotherly Chadian people who — after more than 20 years of a fratricidal war — are now finally experiencing an era of rebirth that is full of promise as a result of the rallying of various factions on the side of the Ndjamena government.

We wish the same peace to the countries of the Horn of Africa, which have been severely hit by drought and famine but where by a twist of fate, the people are fighting against and killing one another instead of fighting against misery. We are not seeking peace for Africa alone. Our continent's security depends on creating a climate of peace and harmony in all the regions of the world, and whose instability can pose a threat to our countries. This is why in the face of the Middle East conflict, the Iraq-Iran war, the situation in South America, or in Southeast Asia, we must transcend our alliances due to circumstances and our divergent views in order that, without any political considerations, we may imagine a global solution and a negotiated settlement in the interest of peace between countries in conflict.

Heads of state and governments: Some (?people) who are enemies of the peace, progress, and happiness of our peoples have sworn to export terrorist violence throughout the world and to blindly attack innocent countries. The international community has adopted some corrective measures against this wave of violence and crime which are both preventive and dissuasive. Now that our continent is becoming the scene of all sorts of violence, we must within our community initiate cooperation agreements that will enable us to pursue the sources and the promoters of attacks against peaceful countries. Since terrorist violence is (?blind violence) and most of its victims are often innocent persons, we must utilize all the means at our disposal as a group to put an end to it. If almost all the developed countries have solved one of the most important problems in a nation's life, the problem of food, Africa, like most of the developing countries, is still faced with this crucial problem. At this time when it must tackle the problem of its full development, it has no right to disperse its energies by engaging in fruitless, fratricidal, and destructive struggles. It is only when security is ensured both inside and outside that our countries can really begin the task of development on the basis of a true international cooperation. It is due to these two factors that the Franco-African alliance we are cultivating can generate progress and happiness for the peoples of France and Africa and serve as an example to the international community. Long live France! Long live African unity! [applause and shouts of party slogans]

ALGERIA

Commerce Minister Ends Visit to Tripoli

LD150412 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Yesterday, Brother Mostefa Benamar, minister of commerce, concluded his official visit to Libya. During his stay in Tripoli, the brother minister was received by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan leadership. He also carried out a series of contacts with Libyan officials and visited some Libyan commercial and production centers. The visit was crowned with the signing of economic and commercial cooperation minutes and an agreement on the formation of a joint construction company. It is noteworthy that brother Benamar was accompanied by a number of Algerian officials from the fields of commerce, industry, and energy.

Energy Minister Confers With Nigeria's Akinyemi

LD171210 Algiers APS in English 1110 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Algiers, 17/11/86 (APS) — Minister of energy, chemical and petrochemical industries, Belkacem Nabi conferred Saturday with Nigerian foreign affairs minister, Bolaji Akinyemi.

The two ministers examined bilateral relations and prospects of their development in the field of energy and chemical and petrochemical industries.

They also examined the latest developments of international oil market.

Moreover, the two ministers dealt with the forthcoming meeting of the Association of African Hydrocarbon in Lagos, Nigeria by the end of January 1987.

Akinyemi Ends Visit

LD161354 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Nigerian External Affairs Minister Bolaji Akinyemi left Algiers today following a 3-day official visit to our country. He was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, and Mohamed Aberkane, deputy foreign minister in charge of cooperation.

Before leaving Algiers the Nigerian minister said that his visit allowed a firm basis to be laid for fruitful cooperation between Algeria and Nigeria, stressing that his talks with Algerian officials showed an identity of views with regard to all issues.

The Nigerian minister was received during his stay in our country by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN.

Ethiopian Party Delegation Confers With FLN

LD171215 Algiers APS in English 1100 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Algiers, 17/11/86 (APS) — A delegation of the party of Ethiopia's workers led by Ashagre Yigletu, secretary of the Central Committee in charge of external relations, and including minister of mines and energy, conferred Sunday here with an FLN Party delegation led by Abderrezzak Bouhara member of the FLN party CC Permanent Secretariat in charge of external relations.

Talks particularly took up relations between the two parties and prospects of their development. The two sides also examined means likely to give a new impulse to cooperation between the two countries.

The Ethiopian delegation is in our country in the frame of a five day visit at the invitation of the FLN Party.

LIBYA

Committee Condemns Campaign Against Syria

LD171937 Tripoli JANA in English 1755 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 17, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Libyan Arab Committee for Solidarity and Peace condemned the Western imperialist campaign of lies against sisterly Syria.

In a statement issued today, the committee stressed that this campaign of hostilities is only a ring in the chain of conspiratory provocative aggression led by the leader of international terrorism — the U.S. — against the progressive forces in the Arab homeland and the world over.

The statement indicated that the claims and lies fabricated by the head of the government of child murderer Thatcher against Syria, in coordination with the Zionist intelligence and which Syria completely denied, is nothing but a slander aimed at defaming Syria.

The statement wondered if the administration of Israel's mad dog — Reagan — which fabricates accusations and lies against the progressive forces had included Syria in its lists for its terrorism against nations in Vietnam, Cambodia, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Nicaragua, Grenada, Cuba, and others. Also whether that administration has worked out lists for its terrorism and child murdering in its aggression on the people of Great Jamahiriyah and lists for Zionist terrorism against the Palestinian people, the terror of the racist Pretoria regime against the people of South Africa, Namibia and the front line African states.

The statement pointed out that at the time the administration of Israel's mad dog ignores such ugly type of terror and defends it as "legitimate act" and in a reversed logic it considers the struggle of the liberation movements, and who ever stands by them, as terrorists that must be fought and boycotted.

The Libyan Arab committee called for the standing by the side of the brotherly Syrian people in its confrontation with such provocative hostile campaign.

JANA: U.S. Supplies for Chad Arrive in Cameroon
LD181051 Tripoli JANA in English 1010 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Yaounde, Al-Harth 18, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — U.S. military supplies have arrived at Douala port in Cameroon on thier way to the renegade clique in Ndjamena.

These supplies include 35 military jeeps, 10 heavy military lorries, 30 MLX tanks, 150 rocket launchers, 340 VAL rifles apart from ammunition crates and a number of magazines.

Accompanying this military aid are a large number of military advisors.

This equipment will be transported from the Cameroon's port of Douala to Ndjamena as part of the U.S. backing to renegade Habre.

Weekly Comments on Lome Franco-African Summit
LD181047 Tripoli JANA in English 0933 GMT 18 Nov 86

["*Al-Zahf al-Akhdhar* Comments on Lome Conference of Shame" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 18, *Jamahiriyah News Agency — Al-Zahf al-Akhdhar* weekly newspaper published by Great Jamahiriyah's revolutionary committees asserted in its yesterday's issue that Africa realises its own interests better than France.

It said in its leading commentary that the basic problem Africa faces is colonialism.

It stressed that independence is not only by changing the flag, national anthem and the tool of government, but by total and final liberation from any form of dependence political, economic, cultural or otherwise.

The paper summed up the situation by saying that all the revolutionary liberation forces of Africa are ivited to burn all the dummies that French, U.S. and Western imperialism had made and put in the torn continent.

Al-Zahf al-Akhdhar at the end of its commentary greeted the African leaders who responded to the African revolutionary voice that was heard at the Harare summit and called for ending the shame and the imperialist colonial influence.

Joint Committee With Algeria Signs Trade Protocol
LD142315 Tripoli JANA in English 1409 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 14, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — A protocol was concluded yesterday of the joint Libyan-Algerian committee which came within the economic and industrial complementariness between the two sisterly countries to stress the existing brotherly relations between the two peoples and consolidate the cooperation relations, apart from being an implementation of the executive programmes to promote the economic cooperation.

This programme was concluded during the visit paid to Algeria by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud in February of the current year and Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi, the Algerian first minister when he paid his latest visit to Great al-Jamahiriya in addition to being an implementation of the protocols concluded between the two countries during the visits exchanged by delegations.

The protocol includes strengthening and developing the cooperation in the fields of industry, commerce, energy and construction.

As regards the commercial field, the scope of progress has been surveyed that has been achieved in the implementation of the concluded contracts between the firms and establishments of the two countries.

The two sides have expressed their pleasure on the implementation of the commercial contracts pertaining to the importation and exportation of the following goods between the two sisterly countries: medical supplies, irrigation pipes, industrial leather, household goods, vegetable oils, electric and household equipment, cement, c. soda, plastics and tea.

The two sides have agreed that the concerned firms and establishments should continue negotiating and come to an agreement to conclude new contracts in 1986 for the following goods: (?Refined) and powder soap, textiles, ready-made clothes, shoes, industrial leather, foodstuffs, juices, [words indistinct], medical supplies, cigarette filters, boxes of matches, c. soda, plastics, other chemical production and cement.

The two sides see that there are new dimensions for increasing the trade exchange to include the goods [words indistinct] between the two countries such as urine [as received], ammonia, fertilizers, chlorine, carpets, leather, wool, insecticide and others.

Within the framework of increasing the commercial exchanges, the two sides have expressed in the protocol their pleasure on the joint Chamber of Commerce between the two countries stressing that it should commence its activities in developing the commercial exchange through exchanging trade delegations and the exchange of information and holding of meetings and regular seminars for the firms and the exporting and importing establishment between the two countries.

The two sides have agreed that a meeting should be held between the national firm of marketing in Great al-Jamahiriya and an Algerian national establishment to [word indistinct] the orders of goods expansion in the two countries and the organization of the assembled markets, apart from exchanging the experience and goods whose source is one of the two countries.

The two sides have agreed to participate in the international fairs held in the two countries and the organization of special fairs to exhibit the products of each country into the other one, provided that an Algerian exhibition be organized in Al-Jamahiriya and Libyan Arab exhibitions in Algeria during 1987. The specifying of the time of these exhibitions should be left to the concerned quarters in the two countries in addition to the agreement on the exchange of experiences and information in the field of participating in the international fairs held outside the two countries.

The protocol has specified that all future commercial transactions between the concerned firms and establishments should be subject to the banking arrangements concluded in Algeria on 10/11/1986 between the Central Bank of Libya and the Central Bank of Algeria.

Concerning the field of industry, the two sides have exchanged their viewpoints on the potentials of both countries in the field of the manufacture of wood and furniture and have agreed to exchange information, visits and experiences between those concerned in industry aiming at benefiting and finding the possibilities of cooperation in this regard.

As regards building and construction, the two sides have expressed their pleasure on concluding the agreements of establishing a joint construction company in the field of construction and building.

They have both stressed the importance of speeding up the implementation of what has been mentioned in this agreement.

This protocol has been signed by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry and Mr. Mostefa Benamar, the Algerian minister of commerce.

Present at the signing procedure were a number of experts and technicians from the two sides in addition to the ambassador of Algeria to Great al-Jamahiriya.

Also, a table has been laid down for the exchange of the delegations of the two sides until the end of 1986 aiming at giving opportunity to the economic and industrial quarters to find wider possibilities for cooperation in all spheres.

Information Secretary Receives PANA Director

LD172148 Tripoli JANA in English 1650 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 17, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture received this morning Mr. "August Moba" [quotation marks as received] the director-general of the *Pan-Africa News Agency* (PANA) who is currently visiting Great Jamahiriyah. During the meeting emphasis was put on the importance of co-operation and co-ordination between JANA and PANA [words indistinct] tyrannical campaigns of imperialist media aimed at the will of the African peoples which struggle for their liberty. .

PANA's director-general told the secretary for information during the meeting which was attended by the secretary of JANA, about PANA's readiness to co-operate with Libyan Arab media to inform the world public opinion the facts about the causes of the African people and expose imperialist plots against them.

The secretary of the People's Committee for Information and Culture asserted Great Jamahiriyah readiness to support PANA's activities to enable it to carry out its tasks perfectly because Great Jamahiriyah is one of the states that established this African agency.

PANA's director-general expressed PANA's desire to open a regional bureau in Tripoli and get Libyan Arab information elements to assist in the work at the agency's headquarters in Dakar in the framework of co-operation between the two agencies.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Beninese Minister, Message

NC150710 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Soule Dankoro, Beninese minister of trade and tourism, yesterday. Dankoro handed the leader a written message from Beninese President Mathieu Kerekou.

MOROCCO

Filali Warns Spanish Ambassador on Melilla

LD142136 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] We have a report just in from EFE in Rabat:

The Moroccan foreign minister, Abdellatif Filali, warned the Spanish ambassador to Morocco, Raimondo Bassols, of the negative consequences that the present situation in Melilla might have. This was officially reported in Rabat. The Spanish ambassador was summoned to the Moroccan Foreign Ministry late this afternoon.

SUDAN

DPRK Embassy Denies Kim Il-Song Assassination

JN171739 Khartoum SUNA in English 1727 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 17 (SUNA) — The Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea here today denied the reports circulated by the Western media about the assassination of President Kim Il-song. The embassy described the reports as rumour, baseless and unfounded. The press secretary in the embassy affirmed that life is normal in the country and the people tenaciously adhere to their leadership.

Al-Mirghani Receives Message From Egypt's Mubarak

JN171834 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum Nov 17 (SUNA) — Chairman of the State Council Ahmad al-Mirghani has received a verbal message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on bilateral relations between the two countries. Egyptian Ambassador to Khartoum Husayn 'Abbas Musharrafah who called on Al-Mirghani today conveyed the message.

He announced that he acquainted Al-Mirghani on the steps taken to absorb the displaced southern students in the Egyptian schools in Khartoum.

He said the absorption of these students in classes of the Egyptian schools will begin in the end of this week.

On the other hand, the State Council member Dr. Pacifico Lado discussed with the ambassador the bilateral relations between the two countries and the question of the southern students in Egyptian schools in Khartoum.

Confers With EEC Envoy

JN171837 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum Nov 17 (SUNA) — Chairman of the State Council Ahmad al-Mirghani has today discussed with the European Economic Community EEC representative to Khartoum Mr Jean Paul Jesse the activities of the EEC and its relations with the Sudan.

Mr Jesse said EEC aid to the Sudan has increased in recent period. He added that the meeting also touched on the refugees situation in the country saying that EEC will assist the Sudan in this field.

Views Visits to Iraq, Kuwait

JN162114 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1424 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Nov (SUNA) — Today, State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani asserted that the Iraqi leadership showed a readiness to support Sudan in all fields, particularly the Armed Forces, so that they will continue their role in safeguarding Sudanese territory and preserving the democratic situation.

Al-Mirghani said his visit to Iraq yielded positive results, the most important of which was the Iraqi leadership's backing and support for the democratic system approved by the Sudanese people. He said he sensed the Iraqi leadership's readiness to support efforts for harmony and for closing the Arab ranks.

Al-Mirghani visited Iraq and Kuwait from 8-13 November and met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, the amir of Kuwait, as well as senior officials in the two fraternal countreis.

Al-Mirghani also explained that during his recent visit to fraternal Kuwait his highness the Kuwaiti amir decided to extend medical aid to Sudan to meet its shortage in addition to extending aid to support the police and finance the Khartoum-'Atbarah road.

Al-Mirghani instructed the health minister to define the Health Ministry's need for medicines and to contact the Kuwaiti authorities in implementation of the Kuwaiti amir's decision. Al-Mirghani also instructed the Finance Ministry to give first priority to the Khartoum-'Atbarah road.

IMF Officials Begin Negotiations in Khartoum

JN151916 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 15 Nov (SUNA) — Negotiations between Finance Ministry officials and the IMF delegation which arrived in the country last Tuesday began here this morning to discuss the economic reform program proposed by the government.

In a press statement, Dr Bashir 'Umar, finance minister and head of the Sudanese side to the negotiations, explained that the meeting began by emphasizing the aspects agreed upon between the two sides concerning the economic reform program. These aspects included the program's trend to increase production since it is the basic way out of the economic crisis. It was also emphasized that the level of inflation is high. The program defined policies to reduce inflation by increasing the supply and [word indistinct] the demand. It was stressed that the economic problem is linked to the country's organizational and institutional structure.

In his statement, the minister said the IMF delegation accepted the fact that Sudanese economic problems are accumulated problems over several years which cannot be remedied in 1 year.

The IMF delegation supported the steps which had begun to lay down a medium-term 4-year plan. It also approved the Sudanese economy's short-term need for world support under the slogan of aid to get rid of medium-term and long-term assistance by using such aid in providing basic commodities to citizens and by promoting production. [passage omitted]

20 Government Soldiers Said Killed in Blast

EA171855 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] A powerful land mine blast destroyed a Magirus truck and a lorry on 13 November this year between Rapkona [name as received] and the site of oil fields in Bentiu, killing 20 enemy soldiers including an unidentified lieutenant. Many others were also injured in the explosion. [passage omitted]

Radio SPLA Says Government Attack Repulsed 12 Nov

EA171749 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The enemy forces and militia in Pibor [name as received] attacked the SPLA camp 3 km from Pibor town on 12th November 1986. Fighting started at 5 a.m. and lasted till 1 o'clock in the afternoon. A correspondent in Pibor says that the combined enemy force and militia were repulsed back into Pibor after suffering heavy casualties. The SPLA forces in Pibor are commanded by Captain (Kennedy Gayet).

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister Briefs Bourguiba on Recent Tour

LD172313 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] President Habib Bourguiba received Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk in the presence of Rachid Sfar and [words indistinct].

The foreign minister reported to the president on the important results achieved, according to the president's instructions, in Mauritania and Lome and the related circumstances. He said that he made his best efforts to represent the president in a manner worthy of the great respect which the president enjoys, painting a reassuring picture of Tunisia which is firmly and resolutely devoting its energies to the people's happiness in an atmosphere of fraternity and adherence to values.

He said that he was happy with the results of his tour. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Finance Minister Arrives for Meetings

JN172140 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq arrived in Tunis this evening to lead the Iraqi side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Tunisian committee for economic and technical cooperation which will begin tomorrow. The committee, which is led on the Tunisian side by Industry and Trade Minister Salaheddine Ben Mbarek, will discuss trade, economic, industrial, and agricultural cooperation between the two countries as well as ways to find new areas of cooperation between them.

DJIBOUTI

Agreement Reached With Ethiopia on Refugees

EA170602 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 11 Nov 86

[Text] The Republic of Djibouti and the Government of Ethiopia have agreed to take joint action against people secretly crossing their common border.

The agreement, which was reached in Dire Dawa by the heads of border districts of the two countries, will facilitate the orderly repatriation of 17,000 Ethiopian refugees from Djibouti. The Dire Dawa meeting also discussed ways to deal with infectious diseases affecting people and animals along the common border.

More than 30,000 Ethiopian refugees who had fled to Djibouti during the Ogaden war have returned home. [passage indistinct]

ETHIOPIA

WPE Delegation Leaves for Algiers

EA150022 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] An 8-member delegation of the WPE Central Committee led by Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, member and secretary of the WPE Central Committee, left for Algiers today to discuss the further strengthening of relations and cooperation between Ethiopia and Algeria.

On departure, Comrade Ashagre said the delegation would hold discussions on ways to steadily develop new areas of cooperation between the two countries.

The delegation included Comrade Tekeze-Shoa Aytenfiso, member of the WPE Central Committee and minister of mines and energy.

Eritreans Claim 13 Government Troops Killed

LD161847 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Our heroic combatants have attacked and forced the retreat of a Dergue force from Mandafara, (Dekadisna) and [name indistinct] on its way to harass our innocent people.

During the attack, our heroic combatants killed 13 and wounded 20 Dergue soldiers. As usual, to avenge this loss on our innocent people, the Dergue army killed a 52 year-old father in (Adisine) village, and shot and wounded a 78 year-old and a 50 year-old. Besides looting various properties, the Dergue soldiers destroyed implements.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Addresses SRSP Congress 16 Nov

EA171206 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The secretary general of the SRSP, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, today officially opened the third party congress at the Challe Siad military college. The congress, which will last several days, embraces 1,360 participants drawn from the party Central Committee, the People's Assembly, functionaries of the party Central Headquarters, the regions, the armed forces, and the national university. The congress will discuss the report of the secretary general of the party; and review party rules and programs, the 5-year national development plan, the report of the Inspection Committee of the Party Central Committee, the census of people and buildings, the report of regional delegates, and the election method for the higher institutions of the party. Before the congress embarked on the discussion of its agenda, the participants elected the chairmanship of the congress, consisting of the members of the party Political Committee, headed by Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and the Secretariat of the congress. The congress also approved its agenda. [passage omitted]

The secretary general of the SRSP, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, who delivered a report, spoke in detail on the affairs of the party and on political, economic, social, defense and security issues. The report was based on the 1982-86 5-year national plan. Challe Siad said the basic principles and the revolutionary views of the party affecting these issues are not the highest symbols manifesting the vanguard position of the party and the successes scored in its obligations; any party's success with its program depends on that party's quality, integrity, courage and the capability of its members. Therefore, the party officials were charged with the serious responsibility of maintaining unity founded on revolutionary thinking, maturity and broad knowledge. [passage omitted]

Challe Siad said the leadership of the SRSP would give priority to the promotion of the standards, awareness and courage of the Somali people by ensuring that all the leaders remain pacesetters and avoid taking advantage of their positions in the party and government inasmuch as such practices had manifested themselves in many places. It had of late become apparent that emphasis had been placed on giving publicity to and boasting about the work which had been done and the progress achieved in certain sectors. On occasion, self-aggrandizement by an individual, institution, the party or the government had become too common. Such practices only served to undermine national advancement. The purpose was not to ignore what the nation was doing, but top priority must be given to the exposure of areas where sluggishness exist, the causes of such sluggishness and what corrective measures are being taken. No particular place should receive illusory publicity, as was apparent, Challe Siad said. [passage omitted]

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre urged all party and government officials to prepare and plan for rigorous accountability relating to the areas of their activities and their national responsibility, which would be measured by the manner in which they discharge the responsibilities entrusted to them by the party, bearing in mind that steps would be taken against those who fail to live up to the party's objectives and national aspirations, whereas those who succeed in discharging their national responsibilities would be rewarded.

Speaking on the economy, Challe Siad said the second congress had approved the implementation of the 1982-86 5-year plan with a planned budget of 16,399 million [currency not specified]. This had however increased to 54,536 million, causing inflation, depreciation in the value of the Somali shilling, and reduced production in the country. Expenditure on development projects is 34,210 million, which is 64 percent of required expenditure. The plan gives priority to productive sectors and related activities.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said that during the 5-year plan the country was faced by environmental problems, some of which were international, such as the imbalance in the economic relations between the third and the developed worlds, inflation and international economic chaos. To minimize the effects of such problems, the Somali Government took various steps related to the program of restructuring the economy, which resulted in economic growth of over 4 percent, increased internal production — making possible the creation of a national reserve — and a falling rate of inflation, which had declined from 92 percent to just above 30 percent.

Challe Siad stated that the government budget estimates for 1986 are based on an increase in revenue of 60 percent, realized following efforts made to collect revenue, and the creation of a ministry charged with the responsibility of collecting government revenue and (?control) of expenditure. As a result, revenue in the past 9 months totalled over 6.5 million compared with 6.2 million Somali shillings for the whole of 1985, plus revenue from external aid totalling 4 billion.

The secretary general of the SRSP, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, stated that although efforts were made in financial matters and the promotion of trade, and the Somali public was encouraged to engage in trade in order to improve their lot, the program to restructure the economy brought in its wake problems requiring emergency solutions, such as inflation, which had declined in 1985, and had now risen by 16 percent; the depreciation of the Somali shilling, which caused hardship and the balancing of the cost of living and the income of workers. Challe Siad noted in his report that the foreign exchange market is aimed to lower the exchange rate of the Somali shilling and other currencies, adding that it is necessary to pay attention to matters pertaining to commodities from within and outside the country.

The secretary general went on to say that during the exercise to implement the program to restructure the economy, many people acquired wealth, but unfortunately traders and wealthy people did not participate in programs to strengthen the country's productivity. It is therefore imperative for the government to control the important sources of the national economy in order to implement its policy of economic development for the benefit of society.

Challe Siad said the aspiration of agricultural development, as stated in the 1982-86 5-year plan is to increase production by about 6 percent or more annually. To achieve this, steps have been taken to encourage agricultural production, particularly of sorghum, which increased by 24 percent, and maize, which increased by 69 percent. The production of vegetables and (?fruit) reached a level to satisfy domestic requirements.

The secretary general said that in most coastal areas, and particularly in the northern regions, fishing projects had been implemented and emphasis had been put on training to improve skills in fishing, resulting in a 541 percent increase in production. The number of fishing vessels had increased by 373 percent.

Speaking on livestock and ranching, Challe Siad said that more than 90 percent of the Somali people directly or indirectly benefited from livestock products, and that 60 percent of the population lived in rural areas. For that reason the revolution and the party had always given top priority to improving the health of livestock and the improvement of range land. Challe Siad called on Somali traders to form cooperatives that would engage in the fattening and export of livestock.

On the industrial sector, Challe Siad said the country's policy of industrialization is to ensure that the country's produce would be processed locally in order to reduce imports. There is therefore, a need to build factories, train skilled workers to operate them, and to acquire spares. It is essential to identify what commodities could be produced by the country's factories. Challe Siad added that in the past 5 years the production of existing factories had improved, and 57 private factories had also come into existence through cooperation between traders and Somali capitalists. The total number of employees in the industrial sector is 31,000, equivalent to 10 percent of government employees.

Turning to water and minerals, the secretary general said data from many studies of this sector indicates the existence of many types of minerals in the country, some of which are economically viable and others of which only traces have been found. Those that are economically viable include iron ore, copper, tin, uranium, (?silica), (?el-bur) stone, phosphate, zinc, and others. This year work has been underway on 5 square km of land containing an estimated 20 million tons [mineral not specified] valued at $250 million. The minerals whose traces have been found include gold, manganese, barium, sulphur, coal, and the like.

Prospecting for oil has been underway for some time and the results prove the existence of oil and natural gas.

Discussing water development, Challe Siad pointed out that the 5-year plan envisaged drilling 50 wells and 10 ponds every year, but 34 wells and 6 ponds have been constructed. This means that more than 86 [figure as heard] percent of the construction of ponds has not been achieved. This failure to achieve targets took place both for understandable reasons as well as for reasons that are totally unacceptable. [passage omitted]

Speaking on SDR domestic policy, Challe Siad said it is geared toward serving the interests of the society, based on strengthening unity, maintaining law and order, ensuring justice and equality, increasing production, and broadening participation by the public in development projects, as well as providing services to the people with the emphasis on rural development. [passage omitted]

Turning to foreign policy, the SRSP secretary general said Somalia's foreign policy is guided by the principles of positive nonalignment, peaceful coexistence among the nations of the world, collaboration with governments and peoples of the world, and the right of peoples to decide their own destiny.

In the period between the two congresses, diplomatic moves had been made to portray Somalia's true image and its fundamental interests. Positive progress had been made in this direction as attested by the relations that had spread to embrace continents and international organizations. Goodneighbourly relations had also been promoted between Somalia and East African countries, the Red Sea countries, the Arab Gulf countries, and the Indian Ocean countries, where political, economic and security interests are being implemented. Somalia has also become an active member of regional organizations such as IGADD [expansion unknown] and PTA [preferential trade area]. During the same period, Somalia's relations had greatly improved with the two neighboring countries of Djibouti and Kenya.

Moreover, in consideration of the interests of the two peoples and the principles of understanding, cooperation and peaceful coexistence, Somalia opened talks with the government of the USSR to improve relations between the two countries, Challe Siad pointed out.

Speaking about the Horn of Africa, Challe Siad pointed out that Somalia's foreign policy had initiated diplomatic moves to resolve the fundamental problems between Somalia and Ethiopia. This had been welcomed and supported by the international community. Somalia is sincere about reaching a lasting solution to the problem of the Horn of Africa and the creation of an atmosphere conducive to mutual trust, since fighting and perpetual enmity are not in the interests of the two peoples and countries. It is more sensible to channel efforts into raising the standard of living and the economic development of the peoples of the two countries and not waste enormous resources on fighting and stockpiling arms, the president declared. [passage omitted]

The secretary general of the SRSP, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, also noted in his report the progress achieved in social affairs regarding improvements in education and health services, particularly in the basic health care programs, justice, and the promotion of religious affairs; measures taken to improve performance at work and the welfare of workers; and improvements in sports and related activities, rural development and the fight against qat and intoxicants.

Turning to defense and security, Challe Siad Barre said this sector is of top priority, as is clearly stated in the Party Program and Strategy. Challe Siad pointed out that the growth and modernization of Somalia's defense capability is in the interests and requirements of national security. Since the birth of the revolution, emphasis is placed on maintaining unity, developing the quality and numbers of the armed forces, educating the public on the need to eradicate internal reaction, strengthening security, and participating in dealing with internal and external enemies.

In his report, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre also laid stress on the SDR position on international issues such as the Middle East problem, the realization of the rights of the Palestinian people, the eradication of apartheid in South Africa, supporting Namibia's efforts toward independence, the Iran-Iraq war, and the humanitarian assistance Somalia extends to the large number of refugees in the country.

Challe Siad also stressed Somalia's view on the need to eradicate the production and proliferation of dangerous weapons, particularly nuclear and chemical weapons. We regret that while people in many parts of the world have been hit by famine and natural disasters, big powers who are responsible for maintaining world peace should be preoccupied with the nuclear arms race. We propose that those powers should divert the huge sums spent on arms toward modern scientific development and the promotion of peace and social development. The United States and the Soviet Union should work toward reaching an agreement in arms control talks in order to ensure world peace.

Challe Siad concluded his report with recommendations on matters pertaining to party affairs, the economy, internal and external policy, social affairs, defense and national security. [passage omitted]

President Receives Mengistu Message

EA172316 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1850 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Somali Democratic Republic President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today received Ethiopian Interior Minister Endale Tesema, a WPE member. The minister delivered to Challe Siad a message from the leader of Socialist Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam, on the Preferential Trade Area. [passage indistinct]

Foreign Minister Returns From Rome; Describes Talks

EA160014 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre said today that the talks between Italy and African states in Rome on Africa's economic crisis could become the key to solving it. He told journalists at Mogadishu Airport on his return from Rome, where he had attended the talks, that the talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and that the Italian Government had pledged to support any attempt to help Africa solve its economic problems. The SDR foreign minister added that the Italian Government had also promised to increase its assistance to Africa. Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre went on to say that the SDR delegation had delivered a speech on the root causes of Africa's economic crisis, these being the global economic crisis, rising prices of basic commodities worldwide, the debt crisis, prolonged droughts in the continent and the numberless refugees, which is theresult of numerous wars.

On the overall achievements of the conference, the SDR minister said that the delegates were pleased with the outcome of the meeting, which had made a serious attempt to find a lasting solution to the continent's economic crisis. He expressed gratitude to the Italian Government for its continuing efforts to help Africa find a solution.

Answering a question on his private talks with senior Italian officials, the SDR foreign minister said bilateral matters and ways of strengthening relations and the excellent cooperation between the two countries had been discussed.

Answering another question on the views of the Italian Government on the situation in the Horn of Africa, the SDR foreign minister said the Italian Government warmly welcomed the current Somalia-Ethiopia talks and hoped that a lasting and peaceful solution could be found. He went on to say that there were high hopes that an understanding would emerge from these talks, which were proceeding in an atmosphere of sincerity and mutual respect in order to achieve a lasting peace. [passage omitted]

Radio Halgan: DFSS Central Committee Meeting Begins

EA131403 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 12 Nov 86

[Text] The first round of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] Central Committee meeting opened at DFSS headquarters on 11 November. DFSS Chairman Dr Hassan Ali Mireh opened the meeting with a briefing on what has been achieved since the last meeting, and on plans for the future. He then invited the committee to exchange views on the armed and political struggle against the fascist regime of dictator Siad Barre. Taking part in the lively discussion were assistant DFSS Chairman Muhammad Farah Jimale, secretaries of various sections of the DFSS, and officers who are members of the Central Committee.

The discussions centered on the level of struggle and ways of spreading it inside the country so that the Somali people can play their part. Ways of uniting the opposition forces, especially the DFSS and the Somali National Movements, were discussed, the unity of the opposition forces, in the absence of which the struggle will only be prolonged, being considered essential to victory.

Last on the agenda was the question of the situation in our country, particularly the power struggle and the chaos that has engulfed the country since 23 May this year, when Siad was injured in a car accident. You can follow the outcome of the meeting on Radio Halgan. The meeting continues.

TANZANIA

Diplomatic Ties Established With Seychelles

EA170639 Dakar PANA in English 0846 GMT 12 Nov 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 12/11 (SHIHATA/PANA) — Tanzania and Seychelles have decided to establish relations at ambassadorial level effective yesterday.

A statement issued by the Tanzanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dar es Salaam yesterday said the decision was in line with the desire of the two countries to promote "a spirit of mutual understanding and in order to strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between the peoples" of Tanzania and Seychelles.

"Both governments have agreed, at a time convenient to both countries, to appoint non-resident ambassadors as their respective representatives", the statement said.

Iraqi Light Industries Minister Arrives 17 Nov

JN171649 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Light Industries Minister Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah and his delegation arrived in Dar es Salaam today on an official visit of several days to Tanzania.

During the visit Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah will lead the Iraqi side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Tanzanian Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation scheduled to begin later to promote bilateral relations.

Joint Committee Meetings Begin

JN181003 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 18 Nov (INA) — The meetings of the Iraqi-Tanzanian Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation began here last night.

The Iraqi side was led by Light Industries Minister Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah while the Tanzanian side was led by Minister for Planning and Economic Affairs Kighoma Ali Malima. The meetings will deal with ways to promote bilateral economic relations and to expand trade exchange in the interest of the two countries.

In a speech he delivered before the committee, the Tanzanian minister stressed the importance of the current committee's session and its role in promoting relations of cooperation and friendship with Iraq. He praised Iraq's role in promoting its friendship relations with the developing countries, particularly with the African states.

The Tanzanian minister also expressed the Tanzanian Government's appreciation for Iraq's stand, leadership, government, and people, toward the war with Iran. He stressed his country's desire to end the war which causes harm to both sides and threatens the region's security and stability.

UGANDA

President Yoweri Museveni Makes European Trip

For coverage of President Museveni's European tour see the the 14 November issue of the Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

CHAD

FANT Says FAP Downs Libyan Bomber 16 Nov

AB171954 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1858 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Communique issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces on 17 November in Ndjamena — read by Lieutenant (Abdel Saguem Idriss])

[Text] Communique from the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT]. On 12, 13, and 14 November 1986, the Libyan invasion troops, in their Machiavellian annexationist adventure in our country, attacked the positions held at Fada by the patriots of the People's Armed Forces [FAP]. The lightning riposte of the patriots caused panic among the enemy troops who suffered heavy human and material losses.

Exacerbated by the determination of the Chadian patriots to drive them out of the Chadian national territory and foaming with rage, the Libyan invasion troops have embarked on a blind operation of extermination of the Chadian people.

On 16 November, the Libyan mercenaries launched an important attack against a (?position) held in the Tibesti by the FAP. The aggression troops thought they could easily occupy this highly strategic position held by the patriots, but they suffered a crushing defeat. In a terrifying counteroffensive, the Libyan invaders were violently beaten back. They retreated in a disorderly way after suffering considerable human and material losses. Furthermore, the patriotic FAP forces also shot down a Libyan bomber aircraft.

In the face of this heroic action, the FANT High Command congratulates and encourages the patriotic forces in their determination to crush the common enemy and tells them again that the FANT are on their side.

GUNT Official Appeals for Goukouni's Release

LD171728 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Chadian President Hissein Habre is very pleased with the results of the Lome summit because of the interest aroused by the Chad question during that meeting. Yesterday afternoon, on his way back to Chad, he stopped off for a few hours in Nigeria where he met with head of state General Babangida. According to an official of the Chadian Government, fighting is reported to have resumed yesterday between supporters of Goukouni Oueddei and Libyan soldiers in the north of the country, that is, in the region of Fada, but at a reduced level apparently.

In Lome, Adoum Togoi, GUNT's [Transitional National Union Government] delegate for external relations, who has remained faithful to Goukouni Oueddei, has issued another appeal for his release: In a communique published this morning, he affirms that the recent meeting of a section of GUNT factions in Cotonou was financed and organized by Libya, that it is contrary to the statutes of the GUNT, and that in addition it was a failure insofar as the main factions refused to take part in it. The communique describes Acheikh ibn Oumar and Facho Balaam as puppets and traitors. As for Acheikh ibn Oumar himself, he has announced that he is going to make an important statement in the coming hours.

Hissein Habre Returns From Lome, Lagos; Comments

AB172132 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Returning from the Lome summit, the head of state stopped over in Lagos where he held fruitful discussions with his Nigerian counterpart, Major General Ibrahim Babangida. The head of state expressed his views on these two events on his arrival yesterday at the Ndjamena airport. He spoke to (Celestin Tepona)

[Begin recording] [Habre] In fact, the 13th Franco-African summit conference has just ended in Lome, Togo. The organization was perfect, and it took place in an atmosphere of excellent friendship and fraternity. [passage omitted]

[Tepona] Mr President, you made a stopover in Lagos on your way from Lome. Could you give details about your meeting?

[Habre] First of all, I must say that Nigeria is one of Chad's neighbors. We maintain close links of cooperation and of good-neighborliness. It is therefore quite normal [words indistinct] had the opportunity to meet President Babangida, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. We discussed issues of common interest. It was a friendly working visit, [words indistinct] which permitted me to meet my brother, President Babangida, with whom we reviewed a wide range of issues of common interest. I am taking the opportunity of this interview to say how satisfied we are with our brief stopover in Lagos, and also to express our gratitude to President Babangida, the Military Council, and the government for the very fraternal and warm reception as well as the attention accorded us. I must also add that our discussions with President Babangida touched on economic and (?political) issues. [passage omitted]

BURKINA FASO

France's Mitterrand Arrives on Official Visit

AB171334 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The Burkinabe people this morning welcomed President Francois Mitterrand, who is coming to our country for the first time in his capacity as president of the French Republic. This visit is significant because it demonstrates the desire of our two countries to intensify solidarity between them in the interests of the French and Burkinabe peoples, who only want to learn more from one another, love one another, and cooperate. [passage omitted]

Makes Statement at Airport

AB171740 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Statement by French President Francois Mitterrand on his arrival at Ouagadougou International Airport on 17 November — recorded]

[Text] This is my first visit to Burkina Faso since assuming office as president of the French Republic. But it is not the first time I have come to this country. I had already come here on two previous occasions. It was therefore necessary for me to see what [words indistinct] has been achieved thanks to [words indistinct]

What significance do I attach to this trip? Well, I deem it important to maintain the closest possible relations with the heads of state and leaders of all French-speaking African countries, while, of course, not excluding the others. Such trips are particularly important as they afford incomparable opportunities. Of course, we can also exchange phone calls or letters. But this (?does not create) direct relations.

I have already met President Sankara; we met in Paris. But as stated earlier, I think it is better to meet him in Ouagadougou, because in this (?setting) the conversation will be different, or at least we [words indistinct].

I need to gain a further understanding and appreciation of what he thinks and how he acts [words indistinct]. [passage indisitnct]. So I am happy to be able to spend a few hours — today and tomorrow — with President Thomas Sankara; and when I leave you, I hope I will have the feeling that [words indistinct] and at the same time that I will have gained a better understanding.

President Sankara Comments

LD172315 Paris International Service in French
2030 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpts] During his first visit to Burkina Faso as president, Francois Mitterrand received a very colorful welcome this morning. Shortly after his arrival the head of state held the first round of talks with Burkinabe President Captain Sankara. This first private conversation was followed by a private lunch at which the wives of the two men were present. [passage omitted]

Francois Mitterrand has said that his visit to Burkina Faso is a duty for him and that for him nothing could replace direct contacts for a better understanding between Ouagadougou and Paris. Capt Sankara was also very pleased to receive Francois Mitterrand, as he told Michel Verlan. [passage indistinct]

The Burkinabe president believes in the virtues of dialogue. He recognizes that he has, on occasions, made mistakes since his arrival in power 3 years ago.

[Begin recording] [Sankara] I think that the debate between African leaders must continue and must be stepped up, even if this creates problems or jolts. Only permanent contradictory debates can make us advance and force us to watch very closely what [word indistinct] want, and not the classic, academic images that we are looking for, to give us a clear conscience, or simply conform with the West, which has inculcated in us their methods and ways of seeing things, but ways of seeing things that are [words indistinct]. How many African heads of state have been elected with 99 per cent — 99 percent? [passage omitted]

[Verlan] Have you made mistakes?

[Sankara] Yes, a lot.

[Verlan] The only people who died in the Burkinabe revolution were the seven who were shot. Do you now regret this gesture?

[Sankara] I think of it, and I regret it. [end recording]

GHANA

Soviet Solidarity Delegation Arrives on Visit

AB141559 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] The All Women's Association of Ghana, AWAG, has added its voice to the call on the superpowers to have a second look at the continued manufacture of weapons of mass destruction so as to bring lasting peace to the world. Welcoming a delegation of the Soviet committe for solidarity with countries of Africa and Asia now on a visit to Accra, the president of the association, Madam Lidya Commey, said peace is a fundamental requirement for the continued existence of mankind. It is therefore the duty of all progressive people and governments to support moves toward the realization of world peace. Madam Commey noted that this year has been declared a year of peace, and it would be necessary to stop the stockpiling of arms so as to create a better world for the future generations. She said it is an irony of history that whilst billions of dollars are spent by the superpowers on the manufacture of deadly weapons, countries in the Third World continue to wallow in poverty. Madam Lidya Commey appealed to the big powers to turn attention to the developing world where nearly 500 million people are seriously undernourished.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Comrade (Ekov), commended the association for its stand to work for peace in Ghana. He said the delegation had taken notice of the feeling of friendship exhibited by the women and appealed to them to continue to play their part in efforts to bring lasting peace to the world.

PNDC Member Receives Group

AB151832 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] A member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mr Ebo Tawiah, has stated that the 31st December process is firmly anchored in the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR's] and is receiving the active support of other progressive organizations. He said the current process offered workers the best opportunity of exercising their political initiative. Mr Tawiah was speaking when a 3-member delegation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee led by Mr (Petrovich Ganade) called on him at the Castle. He called on Ghanaians to recognize this opportunity and take part in national affairs.

The PNDC member commended the peace efforts of the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, for general and complete disarmament as a necessary condition for development. Replying, Mr (Ganade) said he and other members of the delegation are happy to be in Ghana during this period when the country is undergoing positive transformation. He said they are in the country to broaden relations with the Ghana Peace and Solidarity Council, and other progressive mass organizations.

The Soviet ambassador, Mr Vyacheslav Semenov, who accompanied the delegation, expressed appreciation for the favorable political climate which has been created by the PNDC for the realization of the aspirations of Ghanaians.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

AB172004 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The national secretariat of CDR's and the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, SAASC, today signed an agreement under which SAASC will assist the CDR's in their activities, particularly in training national cadres. Lieutenant Colonel Asase, political counselor for CDR's, signed for his organization, while [name indistinct], secretary of the party committee of the region of Donetsk, signed for SAASC. The agreement, which aims at coordinating activities between the CDR's and SAASC, involves the exchange of information and delegations between Ghana and the Soviet Union.

Col Asase noted that the agreement is important to the CDR leadership, since it marks the beginning of greater cooperation and solidarity between the two organizations and peoples of both countries. He pledged to go by the agreement.

Replying, Mr [name indistinct], who is leading a 3-man delegation, said the agreement reflects the mutual cooperation that has existed between Ghana and his country. He assured the political counselor that his country would honor the agreement. The delegation, which is in the country at the invitation of the Ghana Peace and Solidarity Council, leaves for home tomorrow.

1986 Exports Increase by $72.3 Million

AB141027 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Ghana's exports from January to October this year registered a $72.3 million increase over last year's figure of $534.8 million. Figures released to the GNA [Ghana News Agency] in Accra by the Bank of Ghana show that exports were boosted mainly by cocoa proceeds, which shot up from $358.1 million last year to $467.9 million this year, representing a 30.6 percent increase.

The $607.1 million worth of commodities exported during the first 10 months of this year mean increases of 3.7 percent and 5.3 percent over the whole of 1984 and 1985.

According to the figures, gold exports also rose from $79.7 million to $83.8 while shea nut, a non-traditional export commodity, grew from $2.7 million to $7.7 million. Diamond exports remained at $4.5 million while combined figures for agricultural and manufactured products reduced to $1.8 million from $13.9 million recorded up to October last year. Records for manganese available only after May indicated $1.8 million in exports as against $2.8 million from January to October 1985. Proceeds from timber exports were $16.5 million from $17.3 million for January to October last year. But Bank of Ghana officials say this year's figure could be much higher because only four out of the seven dealer banks had submitted returns, and even those were not up to date.

GUINEA

AFP Reports Aid Granted After Mitterrand Visit

AB172148 Paris AFP in French 1049 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Conakry, 17 Nov (AFP) — President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Conakry 12 to 13 November will be followed by a series of new French financial aid programs to Guinea, it was learned from a French diplomatic source in Conakry.

In this regard, France will finance an emergency program for the overhaul of the Conakry road system including, notably, the resurfacing of the roads and the repairing of sewers. The last rainy season, which recorded 4 meters of rainfall, was a catastrophe because roads in the Guinean capital and various areas were flooded.

The cost of this program, which is due to be completed before the next rainy season, will amount to Fr30 million, 18 million of which will be granted in the form of nonreimbursable subsidies.

France will also contribute in the field of higher education: Five permanent university teachers will begin teaching science subjects at the University of Conakry. In addition to these teachers, the first French university teachers at the University of Conakry, where there are currently 80 Soviet assistants, will be sent on temporary missions to Conakry during the academic year from the Universities of Dakar and Abidjan.

In terms of secondary schooling, France will provide assistance to the teacher training school, whereas in the field of primary education, 820,000 school books, costing Fr24 million, will be distributed by the end of December.

Finally, French loans amounting to Fr2 to 3 million will be granted to civil servants who would like to set up their own small-scale enterprises. Guinea will participate in a vast program to reduce the number of civil servants in the public services, which will result in the loss of several thousand civil servants.

IVORY COAST

Defense Minister on Upcoming Military Maneuvers

AB150721 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
14 Nov 86 pp 26, 27

[Excerpts] As of today and until Friday, 21 November, some unusual activities will take place in the districts of Worodougou and Kabadougou. For the first time, the national Armed Forces will conduct military maneuvers there. They are code-named "Kabadougou." Mr Jean Konan Banny — in his capacity as the official responsible for the execution of the government's military policy and particularly for the organization, management, conditioning, utilization, and mobilization of all the Armed Forces as well as for the infrastructures they need — has replied to the questions of our specialist in charge of military affairs. [passage omitted]

[Question] Mr Minister, why was the north-west region chosen?

[Banny] The preparation and training of our forces are conducted in accordance with the use to which we are going to put them. That doctrine is defined in the general framework of the mission assigned by the head of state. The Armed Forces must be fit to fight everywhere in the country. The northwest area is one zone of possible action. It was appropriate to conduct training activities there as we did in other areas. [passage omitted]

[Question] These maneuvers are going to take place in an area that borders brotherly neighboring countries. Can you tell us, without any indiscretion, the precautions you have taken to avoid any tendentious interpretation?

[Banny] These maneuvers correspond to the training necessary to maintain our forces' operational capacity. They will be conducted quite far away from the friendly neighboring countries. The borders are approximately 40 and 80 km away. Our forces are part of the Non-Aggression and Mutual Defense Agreement (ANAD), and their maneuvers are no secret in this region. This interview is proof of this. [passage omitted]

[Question] We have heard that the Kabadougou maneuvers are a prelude to the large-scale Franco-Ivorian maneuvers to be conducted in the same area. Is this true?

[Banny] The December 1987 Franco-Ivorian maneuvers are indeed going to take place in that same area. The means and equipment will, of course, be more important and the area of action much larger. These maneuvers will be both a training exercise and a practice drill.

[Question] We know that the primary mission of the Army is to defend the integrity of the territory, but in view of the alarming renewed outbreak of banditry, do you plan to help your colleague the Ministry of Internal Security?

[Banny] The Armed Forces have always taken part in the fight against banditry through one of its main components, the National Gendarmerie, which is particularly in charge of security outside the urban centers, but which very often also assists the police in the urban areas. Such is the case of Abidjan, where, apart from combined operations, the gendarmerie looks after the safety of the citizens in the outlying districts.

[Question] Only a strong, disciplined, and well-equipped Army can be expected to guarantee the integrity of a country and ensure the reign of peace, without which there can be no progress. At this time of acute economic crisis, do you think that you have the means to implement your defense policy?

[Banny] The Republic of Ivory Coast has established a defense policy consistent with its domestic and foreign policy. It has acquired as much military equipment as was possible. [passage omitted]

'Kabadougou-86' Begins

AB171755 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The military maneuvers, this year code-named "Kabadougou-86," began today. All the various units of our Armed Forces — land, air, and sea — are taking part in these maneuvers to test their defense capability in the event of an attack on the northwestern part of our country. [passage omitted]

LIBERIA

Teachers To Receive September Pay 18 Nov

AB141615 Monrovia Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] It has been announced in Monrovia that public school teachers are to get their September salary checks on next Tuesday [18 November]. Speaking to the press yesterday at the Spriggs Payne airfield, Education Minister E. Othello Gonga said his ministry has been having discussions with officials of the Ministry of Finance concerning the payment of teachers salaries. The minister said the discussions have been fruitful so far and hoped that all salaries due to the teachers will be paid as soon as possible.

Minister Gonga disclosed that the delay in paying the teachers was due to the economic situation facing the country and has appealed to teachers again not to use strike action to demand their salaries.

Doe Returns From Franco-African Summit 15 Nov
AB161524 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2210 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Summary from poor reception] "The president of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, returned home today from Lome, Togo, where he attended the 13th annual Franco-African summit."

Vice President Harry Monibah met him accompanied by government officials, including officials of the national legislature.

Matthews Comments on UPP Political Activity
AB142315 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] The fortunes of Liberian opposition politician Bacchus Matthews have recently taken a sharp, some would say, a surprising upturn. Only a couple of months ago, he was in exile in the United States of America, fearful for his safety if he went home. Now he is back. His UPP [United People's Party] has been officially recognized and registered, and there have been allegations that he's done a deal with Samuel Doe's government that might give his party seats in the forthcoming by-elections; all of which has caused raised eyebrows among the other opposition parties.

(?At) the congress of the UPP early this month, our correspondent, Isaac Bantu, caught up with Bacchus Matthews and asked him if he had compromised his principles to get back into the political mainstream.

[Begin recording] [Matthews] We will continue our commitment to human rights and civil liberties of the people of this country. We will continue to champion their cause, and certainly we will do it in a manner that produces the most effective results, and that is the process of dialogue discussions within the framework of a responsible opposition. We are committed, within the policy of reconciliation, to working with the national government in its efforts to find solutions to both economic and social problems.

[Bantu] After the congress, then what next?

[Matthews] After the congress, the party goes into by-elections to fill some vacancies in the legislature and then it will conduct its own campaign exercises to win municipal seats in the principal cities of the country. Up to the end of the year, that will be the exercise in which we, along with the country, will be engaged.

[Bantu] We understand that the party has nominated you to run for the seat of senator for Montserrado County. How do you feel about your nomination?

[Matthews] Well, it provides the opportunity to continue being of service to the people of the country. We think that it is important that we can have representation in the national legislature, so that there can be a [words indistinct] of views and the views of our own membership can be heard.

[Bantu] In one of the local newspapers here some of the [words indistinct] referred to you at one time as a (?troublemaker). What is your comment on that statement?

[Matthews] We share diversity of thinking. We are different political parties. The public has known me for a long time. We contend that we are the largest political force in the country, with 125,000 members. I (?certainly) believe that there is reasonable confidence in my honesty and integrity and in the honesty and integrity of the party. One should understand that the opposition forces would share a difference of thinking as to what I am or who I am. That is not surprising. It's all in the nature of politics.

MALI

President Mitterrand Ends Visit, Departs
AB171924 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The French president has concluded his official visit to Mali. President Francois Mitterrand and Mrs Danielle Mitterrand left Bamako this morning for Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso. The head of the Elysee was seen off at the Bamako-Senou Airport by General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the party and president of the Republic, and his wife, in the presence of members of the Central Executive Bureau, the government, and the diplomatic corps. [words indistinct] from this visit.

During his stay, the French president and his delegation went to Tombouctou where they visited historic sites and a truck farming site, which is the fruit of the cooperation between the towns of [words indistinct] and Tombouctou. The people of Bamako and Tombouctou accorded an enthusiastic welcome to President Francois Mitterrand and the French delegation.

Presidents Francois Mitterrand and Moussa Traore held private discussions during which they reviewed bilateral relations, problems of the subregion, and the world situation. The two leaders agreed to gear their efforts toward three major areas — rural development, education, and health — so that the impact of the cooperation between France and Mali will be effectively felt by the people. Alongside these discussions, the French and Malian delegations, led respectively by Michel Aurillac, minister of cooperation, and Modibo Keita, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, reviewed the cooperation existing between the two countries. The two parties decided to strengthen cooperation in the priority areas, especially in the implementation of the policy of food self-sufficiency and the fight to control desert encroachment in Mali.

President Moussa Traore underscored the determination of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] and the government to (?successfully) carry out the policy to redress and bring sanity into the Malian economy, undertaken in comformity with the aspirations of the people and for their benefit. President Francois Mitterrand highly praised the courage of the Malian people in their efforts toward economic and social development under very unfavorable conditions. He reaffirmed to President Moussa Traore France's readiness to support the Malian people in this effort.

The two parties reviewed the world political situation and expressed their concern over the increasing deterioration in international relations. (?Examining) the situation in southern Africa, the two parties condemned the unacceptable system of apartheid and expressed the need to put an end to it. In this regard, the two parties acknowledged that the application of global and mandatory sanctions against the Pretoria regime is a means to achieve this. Concerning other sources of tension in Africa, the Middle East, and the rest of the world, the two parties reaffirmed the need for just and equitable solutions through negotiations and consultations, in conformity with the fundamental principles of the UN Charter. The two parties [words indistinct] disarmament and recalled that if the huge sums spent on the arms race could be diverted for the promotion of the well-being of mankind, no [words indistinct] guarantee for peace and world security. The two parties called for the organization, as soon as possible, of an international conference on this issue.

On world economic relations, the two parties deplored the imbalance between the North and the South and called for the establishment of a more just and equitable new world economic order. On this issue, the two parties expressed satisfaction with the holding of the UN special session on Africa's economic situation and called on the world community to support efforts by African countries to ensure the success of the special development program. The two sides examined the debt problem of African states, expressed regret over the situation created by this debt, and stressed the need to remedy it by organizing an international conference [words indistinct].

President Moussa Traore seized the occasion to congratulate President Francois Mitterrand for his courageous stand in favor of developing countries. The two presidents expressed satisfaction with the outcome of this official visit, which testifies to the excellent friendship and cooperation relations existing between France and Mali.

The president of the French Republic expressed his sincere gratitude to the Malian people, to the UDPM, the government, and the UDPM secretary general and president of the Republic, Gen Moussa Traore, for the warm reception and the hospitality accorded the French delegation and himself during their visit to Mali. President Francois Mitterrand invited the president of the Republic, Gen Moussa Traore, to pay an official visit to France. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and the date will be determined through diplomatic channels.

NIGER

President Kountche Returns From Lome Summit

AB160931 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, returned to Niamey this afternoon from Lome. In the Togolese capital the head of state attended the 13th conference of heads of state of France and Africa. [passage omitted]

NIGERIA

President Babangida, Chad's Habre Hold Talks

AB171208 Paris AFP in English 1630 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Lagos, Nov 16 (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre repeated here Sunday that the withdrawal of Libyan troops in northern Chad was essential for peace in his war-torn country.

"Nothing justifies Libya's forcible occupation of Chadian territory. It is contrary to international law and a contravention of African sovereignty and independence," said Mr. Habre, who was on his way home from the just-concluded Franco-African summit in Lome, Togo.

He said his French-supported Ndjamena government fighting Libyan-backed rebels was working toward eliminating all "foreign interference," to enable Chad to concentrate on "friendly" relations with its neighbours, including Libya.

Mr. Habre, responding to an address of welcome by his Nigerian counterpart, Major-General Ibrahim Babangida, acknowledged Nigeria's efforts to mediate in his country's 20-year-old conflict.

Gen. Babangida noted Mr. Habre's "tireless efforts to conciliate and heal the wounds of several years of bitterness and war" in Chad. "I assure you that you can count on our continuing support in all initiatives and measures you and the Chadian people take in the quest for national reconciliation and lasting peace," the Nigerian leader told his guest.

Both men later went into private talks, expected to touch on the recent events in Chad, officials said, adding that Mr. Habre and his eight-man delegation were expected to leave Lagos for home later Sunday.

Akinyemi on Request To Host Chad Talks

AB171657 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Nigeria has received a request from some of the factions in the dispute in Chad to host an all-embracing reconciliation conference. The minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, told a Radio Nigeria correspondent in Lagos today that the request came from the factions backed by Libya. He said Nigeria was always prepared to be involved in a reconciliation process in that country but could not act on the request now, because President Hissein Habre, whose regime the federal government recognized as the legitimate leader in Chad, would first have to agree to the proposal and be willing to attend. Professor Akinyemi disclosed that it was only with the agreement of President Habre and other factions that Nigeria could host such a conference.

The minister, who returned to Lagos yesterday after a tour of Algeria, Morocco, Libya, said there had been constant consultations between the federal government and its Libyan counterpart on the Chadian question. He noted that although a convergence of ideas on the issue had not been reached, each government fully understood what the position of the other was. Professor Akinyemi said the 1-week North African tour afforded him an opportunity to discuss with his counterparts issues relating to the Middle East, southern Africa, and relations between Nigeria and those countries. He also discussed ways of strengthening economic ties, especially in the promotion of exports and imports between them.

DPRK Embassy Denies Killing of Kim Il-song

AB171242 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The North Korean Embassy in Lagos has denied reports that President Kim Il-song has been shot dead. The counselor of the embassy, Mr Kim Song-huan, told a Radio Nigeria correspondent that no such report had been received from Pyongyang and described it as a calculated attempt to embarrass the government.

North Korean diplomats in Moscow and Beijing have also refuted the reports of the assassination.

A foreign radio station reported this morning that there have been conflicting reports that the 74-year-old President Kim Il-song had been shot dead. It quoted the South Korean Defense Ministry.

Babangida Receives Congolese President

AB152227 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida has said that Africa stands to gain a lot from the able leadership of President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of Congo, the current OAU chairman.

President Babangida was speaking in a welcome speech at State House Marina, where he received President Nguesso this evening. He said Africa had already recorded a number of successes under the chairmanship of Colonel Nguesso, (?highest) of which is the winning of a Nobel Prize by an African.

General Babangida said Nigeria was aware of the appreciated effort of Col Nguesso to find a peaceful solution to the civil war in Chad. On bilateral relations between Nigeria and Congo, President Babangida expressed the hope that the economic, scientific, and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries would be signed during his visit. President Babangida said President Samora Machel's death in a mysterious and devious aircraft was tragic and called for resolve and rededication in the fight against apartheid.

Responding, President Nguesso said Africa had great confidence in Nigeria because of her dynamic and firm leadership and great potential. He said he was happy with Nigeria's friendship with her neighbors both in the West African subregion and Africa. Col Nguesso is being hosted to a private dinner about now.

Sassou-Nguesso Departs

AB170856 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] The Congolese president and current chairman of the OAU, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, left Lagos today at the end of his 1-day official visit to Nigeria. During his stay, Col Sassou-Nguesso had a closed-door meeting with President Ibrahim Babangida on a number of bilateral issues after which a joint communique was signed. The Congolese president was seen off at Murtala Muhammed International Airport by the chief of General Staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, and a member of the AFRC [Armed Forces Ruling Council], Air Commodore (Nuru Umar).

ANGOLA

Mozambique's Dos Santos Stops Over in Luanda

MB171616 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received Marcelino dos Santos, member of the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party, in Luanda this morning. Marcelino dos Santos stopped over in Luanda on his return to Maputo after participating in the 13th Franco-African Summit in Lome, Togo. Upon his arrival at Luanda airport yesterday, Marcelino dos Santos commented on the summit, which was attended by heads of state and government, especially those of French-speaking countries, and by the French president and prime minister.

[Begin Marcelino dos Santos recording] The meeting was a positive one — I could even say it was quite positive — firstly with regard to our interests, particularly the interests of Angola and Mozambique. Our concern remains to consolidate ourselves against the apartheid regime and against the actions of its agents, that is, the armed bandits in Mozambique and the armed bandits here in Angola. Therefore, this was the main issue, this was the feeling of the conference and [words indistinct] the stand taken by the (?OAU) as well as the stand of the African countries (?with regard) to apartheid, the condemnation of apartheid, and the rejection of agents of apartheid regime, agents of terrorism. This was the position. There was another aspect: In recent weeks, we noticed, on one hand, Savimbi's visit to France and, on the other hand, Pieter Botha's visit on 11 November. Therefore, all these problems had to be presented, as well as our stands on them.

We are in a world where we must cooperate. If there is a reality to cooperation between Mozambique and France and between Angola and France, France had to tell us, as well as justify its stand so that we may understand it. What was at issue was whether France was developing cooperation at the same time it was favoring the agents of terrorism and, in this case, the agents of apartheid. Naturally, France presented its (?stand) and reasons. We are aware that an envoy of Prime Minister Chirac came to Luanda. In brief, it was made quite clear that the interests of our states do not allow Savimbi to have a place in France. It was made quite clear and we think that this very sincere and frank exchange with France's President Francois Mitterand, and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, will help France better understand what are our realities and our feelings and what we expect from France in response to this situation — the reality of cooperation among our states. [end recording]

BOTSWANA

Masire Calls for Mozambican Support of Chissano

MB171828 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The president, Dr Quett Masire, today appealed to Mozambicans to rally behind their new president, Mr Joaquim Chissano, to help him overcome adversity and to quickly win the war against the bandits of the Mozambique National Resistance. Opening the first meeting of the third session of the fifth parliament this afternoon, in a speech broadcast live over Radio Botswana, Dr Masire also requested members of house to observe a moment of silence in memory of the late Mozambican leader, Mr Samora Machel, who was killed in a mysterious plane crash inside South Africa recently. Dr Masire welcomed President Chissano to the fraternity of the heads of state of the Frontline States, the Southern African development Coordination Conference, and the Organization of African Unity. Dr Masire said, however, that Mr Chissano is not a newcomer to those organizations and that his diplomatic skills and analytical mind will be needed in this region, which, he said, was facing a deepening political, economic, and military crisis. [passage omitted]

Dr Masire also appealed to Botswana to remain vigilant, to ensure that defiant behavior was not condoned, and social norms were not upset by a small (?bunch) of disruptive criminal elements within the nation. The president added that the contact of public and civic leaders contribute a great deal to peace, tranquility, and harmony in society.

Masire Speaks on South African 'Aggression'

MB172022 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1910 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, has said that acts of aggression against neighboring states committed by the South African Government are intended to divert attention from internal conflict in that country between the minority government and the black majority. Opening the first meeting of the third session of the fifth parliament this afternoon in Gaborone, Dr Masire said the acts were also intended to widen the conflict in southern Africa. Dr Masire said that Pretoria was looking for excuses and scapegoats to commit murder and plunder in Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, and Lesotho. The president described the tactics of the South African Government in this regard as wrong and dangerous and were unlikely to bring about a satisfactory solution to the problems. Dr Masire said that a solution to the problem could only be accomplished by the repeal of apartheid law and the granting of equal rights to all citizens in that country regardless of creed, color, and religious belief. President Masire said that, having failed to persuade Pretoria to dismantle apartheid and negotiate a permanent solution by (?normal) persuasion, the international community has decided to widen the scope of sanctions against that country. He recalled that a more wide-ranging package of economic sanctions had recently been adopted by the European Community countries and the United States.

Dr Masire reminded members of parliament that as the imposition of sanctions against South Africa was increasingly becoming internationally accepted, it was to be expected that more pressure would be adopted by more countries. The president also recalled that South Africa is threatening that it would in turn pass the effects of sanctions to its neighbors. He said Botswana was therefore under the threat of sanctions from South Africa, given the experience of the blockade of Lesotho earlier this year.

Chiepe Hosts Dinner for Danish Foreign Minister

MB131706 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Text] The minister for external affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, says South Africa continues to ignore the fact that apartheid is the cause of all its internal problems. Instead, she said, it blames its neighbors and chooses to attack them whenever it feels the pressure from its struggling oppressed black masses. She was speaking at a dinner last night she gave in honor of the visiting Danish Foreign Minister Mr Uffe Ellemann-Jensen at the President Hotel.

She said the white minority regime in Pretoria had decided to take comfort in the mistaken belief that a military solution to their problem could be (?found). South African attacks on its neighbor states, said Dr Chiepe, will not give Pretoria the peace it claims to be fighting for. On the contrary, it compounds the problems of the region. She mentioned that South Africa raided Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Zambia simultaneously in March this year. Dr Chiepe said the white rulers in South Africa were behaving as if the world wanted anything more than necessary out of them. All the world wanted of South Africa, she said, was change from racial tyranny to a tolerant nonracial democracy. On sanctions, Dr Chiepe reiterated Botswana's stand that she does not have the capacity to impose them on South Africa but would not stand in the way of those who wished to do so.

She thanked Denmark for her financial and technical assistance to Botswana. According to Dr Chiepe, Denmark had extended grants to this country totalling 47 million pula.

For his part, the Danish foreign minister praised Botswana for her social and economic development and racial harmony inspite of a neighbor like South aFrica. She [as heard] said Botswana should be among countries to be assisted in overcoming natural and man-made threats against its development and sovereignty. At the same time, said Mr Jensen, there must be restrictive measures against South Africa as no true peace and prosperity would come to southern Africa until the abhorrent system of apartheid is abolished.

LESOTHO

Radio Reports Deaths of Two Former Ministers

MB171235 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The commissioner of police, Major General James Dingiswayo, has announced the names of the four people [who] were shot dead at (Mokhaleng ya Boroa) in the Maseru district yesterday. They are Mr Desmond Sixishe and Mr Vincent Makhele, who were former cabinet ministers, and their wives, Mrs Manapo Sixishe, and Mrs Maliapeng Makhele.

The whereabouts of Mr Thulo Lelala, an employee of the National University of Lesotho are still not known. His wife, Mrs Mentlang Lelala, Mrs Sixishe's sister, who was with the group escaped with injuries and is being treated at St Joseph's Hospital in Roma.

Maj Gen Dingiswayo said the circumstances surrounding the deaths of these people are not yet clear and that investigations began as soon as the reports were received. He said the police hope Mrs Lelala will assist them with their investigation. He stated that the perpetrators of this act will be brought to justice.

Police have received information that the three couples were abducted from the home of Mrs Lelala in the early evening of Saturday, the 15th, by about three armed men. Mrs Lelala, who escaped with injuries, was picked up around the scene of incident at about 0600 on Sunday by a truck driver who drove her to Roma where she was admitted to hospital. According to the police, the four dead had gun wounds. The bodies were all found lying by the road side. Several bullet shells were recovered from the scene.

Information Minister on Deaths

MB172015 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans
1830 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Interview with Lesotho Information Minister Vincent Malebo in Maseru by Kolie van Koller in Johannesburg on the "Network" program; interview conducted in English — live]

[Excerpts] [Van Koller] The puzzle about the murder of two former Lesotho ministers is deepenining since it became known that four people were murdered and one abducted. Up to now, the whereabouts of Mr Lelala, whose wife was seriously injured in the incident, are not known. In the meantime, the pressure on the Lekhanya government is increasing over the question of who is responsible for the murders. We [have] Lesotho's minister of information, Mr Vincent Malebo, on the telephone. [passage omitted]

Mr Malebo, good evening. Welcome to the program and thank you for your time. I think everyone would like to know the motive behind the slayings, sir.

[Malebo] Well, if I have heard the last word well, we do not know. The police are investigating. The commissioner of police has made his own statement. He has now been able to announce definitely that the four names were involved, that of Desmond Sixeshe, Vincent Makhele, and their wives.

[Van Koller] But what happend to the fifth person, Mr Lelala?

[Malebo] Mr Lelala — we did know that he had not been found. But I have reason to believe that we will soon hear about him.

[Van Koller] Mr Minister, your government are on record as having said they will not kill people for their political beliefs. But how can you prove that you were not involved in these killings?

[Malebo] Well, I can tell one thing. The government has set itself the goal of returning and restoring peace to Lesotho. It has set itself the goal of reconciling the nation. As things go now, all has been in the right direction.

[Van Koller] What do you mean by that?

[Malebo] The government has had no threat whatsoever. It does not feel threatened by anything. There is no reason, there is absolutely no reason, why it should be interested in spoiling what one sees as a good future. The past few months have been very good.

[Van Koller] But there is a lot of pressure on your government, at this moment, Mr Minister.

[Malebo] To do what?

[Van Koller] Pressure, you know, because of the killings.

[Malebo] Well, I do not know if you would call that pressure. We are quite comfortable we are handling this sad affair ... [changes thought] it is a sad affair, it is a sad affair, there is no doubt about it. The government of Lesotho values life. And there is no doubt about the fact that as soon as the culprits have been found they will be brought to justice. There is no question about that.

[Van Koller] Mr Malebo, how will these deaths influence the political situation in your country?

[Malebo] Well, this is a very said thing that has happened, but as far as the government is concerned, it will stick to the cause of peace, it will stick to the cause of reconciliation.

[Van Koller] Sir, there have also been rumors that there was an attempt made on the life of Dr Jonathan. Can you confirm this?

[Malebo] Well, I do not know where this was, but we do know that Dr Jonathan was in Quthing to bury the man who was first prime minister of this country, even if it was for 2 months. We do know that he left the place. I do not know what I can say about what you are asking me. I do not believe it, there is no reason why it shoudl be done.

[Van Koller] Mr Minister, thank you very much for your time, and good evening.

[Malebo] Thank you. Good evening.

MOZAMBIQUE

Dos Santos Returns From 'Positive' Lome Summit

MB172046 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Marcelino dos Santos, secretary of the People's Assembly Standing Commission, returned to Maputo early this evening from Togo where he attended the 13th Franco-African summit meeting. According to Marcelino dos Santos, the main issue for Mozambique at the summit was the prevailing situation in southern Africa, particularly the need to develop common action to put an end to South African armed actions through armed bandits. The secretary of the People's Assembly Standing Commission said that this point was very important in view of recent events; that is, the visits by Jonas Savimbi and Pieter Botha to France. Marcelino dos Santos described the Togo meeting's resolutions as positive, having maintained that South Africa is responsible for destabilizing the countries of the region, that the armed bandits are an extension of the South African Army, and that Jonas Savimbi is an agent of apartheid. Marcelino dos Santos said that he had private meetings in Lome with French President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac to whom he expressed Mozambican concerns.

PANA: MNR Massacres Inhambane Peasants

MB171721 Dakar PANA in English 1706 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Maputo, 17 Nov (AIM/PANA) — Bandits of the South African backed "Mozambique National Resistance" (MNR) hacked 44 peasants to death in two separate massacres in the southern province of Inhambane in the last month.

The Inhambane provincial military commander, Major-General Domingos Fondo, who is currently in Maputo, confirmed these atrocities to the *Mozambique News Agency* (AIM) today.

Fondo said that the first massacre took place on 24 October, when bandits murdered 25 peasants at Bambel in the district of Jangamo. Bambel is about 60 kilometres south of Inhambane city and 440 kilometres north of Maputo.

More details of the massacre were given by UNICEF officials and rural water supply personnel working in the region. They said that the MNR had surpirsed local people at Bambel at midnight while they slept. They forced their captives [words indistinct] that the bandits had looted in the neighbourhood.

The peasants were marched for a long distance with the bandits loot on their heads, but then refused to go any further and demanded that they be allowed to return to their homes.

Infuriated at this challenge, the bandits attacked them with knives and axes and hacked to death the 25 who were not able to escape.

Fondo said that a second massacre took place on 9 November in northern Inhambane, in between the towns of Massinga and Funhalouro.

Here bandits entered a hamlet at around 23.00 local time and killed 19 people, including children. Their victims were sleeping. Again cold steel was used rather than firearms.

20 survivors of this massacre are currently under teatment at Inhambane provincial hospital, said Fondo. They include two women whose breasts have been cut off, and who are in a critical condition.

A 14 months old child belonging to one of these women is also critically ill following head wounds received at the hands of the bandits.

During the massacre, said the general, some children were literally cut in two.

General Fondo added that recently in Inhambane the bandits (?do not use) firearms in order not to alert local people to their presence. They normally flee when the militia is alerted to their activities.

In general there is a high degree of vigilance in the province, he continued, citing an incident on 28 October in central Inhambane, between the towns of Maxixe and Homoine, when local people spotted a bdnit group at about 21.30 and alerted the army. The MNR was surrounded, fighting lasted until 04.00 in the morning, and 14 of the bandits were killed. The surviving bandits abandoned teir weapons and rucksacks.

Fonho characterised the MNR in Inhambane as "roving bands."

Their activity was restricted "to sporadic acts of intimidation of defenceless civilians at night".

The general pointed out that it was now possible to travel throughout Inhambane by road, without any military escort. Not a single locality in the province could not be reached by road. From northern Inhambane, an area once considered highly dangerous, vehicles now reguarly carried salt from Nova Mambone, at the mouth of the Save River, down the main north-south road to Maxixe, the province's second largest town, which is linked to Inhambane city by a ferry service.

SOUTH AFRICA

Statement on Visa Refusal For U.S. Official

MB171735 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1719 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 17, SAPA — The government has refused an American official a visa, saying her intended visit to South Africa was to help in the implementation of legislation aimed at "depriving South African citizens of their job opportunities."

The Bureau for Information said in a statement released in Pretoria this evening that the U.S. Department of State had requested a visa be issued to Miss Christine Babcock, "an official of the Agency for International Development, in order to finalise a report on the state of health conditions and the extent of starvation and malnutrition in the national states."

The bureau went on to quote the terms of Article 503 of comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act, recently adopted by the U.S. Congress, which says the starvation report must be submitted to Congress before December 1.

Article 503 reads: "The secretary of state shall conduct a study to examine the state of health conditions and to determine the extent of starvation and malnutrition now prevalent in the homelands areas of South Africa, and shall, not later than December 1, prepare and transmit to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report setting forth the result of such study."

The bureau said this clause, "as is the case with most of the other provisions of the Anti-Apartheid Act," was tantamount to "blatant interference with the Republic of South Africa's domestic affairs."

"It is furthermore outrageous that the United States Congress can pass a law, the object of which is to improverish Black South Africans, and then feign concern about their state of health and nutrition.

"The American Government has duly been informed that the South African Government is not in the position to issue a visa to Miss Babcock to visit the RSA in order to assist in the implementation of legislation which, among others, is aimed at depriving South African citizens of their job opportunities."

South Africa was prepared to reconsider its stand "should the U.S. Government undertake a similar study on the state of health conditions, the extent of starvation and malnutrition in all the African countries," the bureau statement said.

Commentary States Mozambican Relations Must Improve

MB180531 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is now just over four weeks since the accident in which President Samora Machel of Mozambique died. That period of four weeks has been characterized by a number of accusations of South African complicity. None of the accusations has been based on any evidence, substantial or otherwise, apart from wild statements reportedly made by survivors of the accident. South Africa has unequivocally rejected, at the highest political and military levels, all accusations of involvement in the accident.

South African authorities can also not be faulted in respect of their actions following the tragedy. Immediate assistance was provided at the scene of the accident and facilities were made available without delay for Mozambican representatives, the International Civil Aviation authorities and the media to inspect the crash site.

The so-called black boxes were sealed in the presence of South African and Mozambican representatives. Thereafter, a board of inquiry was set up with international representation.

Regrettably, it cannot be said that the same impeccable standards have been maintained by the other two parties which have a right in the matter: Mozambique, the country owning the aircraft, and the Soviet Union, the country of manufacture.

There have, in the past four weeks, been many unnecessary delays and much time-wasting haggling on such issues as the black boxes.

Four weeks after the accident, finality has now been reached between South Africa, the Soviet Union, and Mozambique on procedures to be adopted to resolve the mystery of the air crash. After the delays and haggling of the past month, there is need for the matter to be finalized as expeditiously as possible.

In the first place, there is need for South Africa's name to be cleared once and for all. In the second place, there is need for an improved relationship between South Africa and Mozambique. President Machel died at a time when the Nkomati Accord was under strain. Since then, the unfounded accusations of South African complicity and the revelation of a joint Zimbabwean/Mozambican plot to overthrow the government of Malawi have caused further strains in the generally troubled condition of interstate relations in southern Africa.

The sooner the facts of the Machel air crash are known beyond doubt, the sooner will South Africa and Mozambique be in a position to work for a restoration of stability in their relationship -- a stability that will benefit southern Africa as a whole.

Radio Freedom Interviews ANC Commissar

EA171541 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Interview with Chris Hani, Umkhonto we Sizwe commissar, by unidentified correspondent, time and place not given — recorded]

[Text][Announcer] Compatriots, in about a months time we shall be marking the 25th anniversary of the formation of our peoples army, Umkhonto w Sizwe. On this occasion, we shall be looking back at the past struggles in the past quarter of a century. It was also with this very purpose in mind that made our vanguard movement, the ANC, to declare this 1986 the year of the peoples army, the year for the escalation of our mass offensive against the enemy, the year in which we transform our armed struggle into the reality of peoples war.

During this year, we have seen combatants of Umkhonto working tirelessly with the newly-formed combat units and executing daring operations against the regime. During 1986, we have also seen some spectacular operations carried out by our army, Umkhonto we Sizwe, like the daring elimination of (Pik Nduli) of the (Mbogoto) vigilantes in the Kwandebele Bantustan and the resultant freeing of our comrades who were already [words indistinct]. These and other operations are proof of the (?progress) of people's war in our country.

In the course of this year, we have also seen (?MK) in conjunctions with the combat units supplementing mass activities of our people. [Words indistinct] of the enemy, these fighting sons and daughters of our people have been there, carrying out military activities to back and consolidate the demands of the people. There can be no doubt now that that (?MK) is one with the people but much more still remains to be done.

We thus asked the commissar of Umkhonto we Sizwe, Comrade Chris (Tembe) Hani, who is also a member of the National Executive Committee of the ANC, to give some directives on what still remain to be accomplished in this year of Umkhonto we Sizwe.

[Hani] This year is an important anniversary for our people's army, the year of 25 years of existence, but what is even most significant is it is a year of heightened mass struggle by our people. We have always said that armed struggle forms an important part of the struggle for the seizure of power in our country. So, the people's army then must be seen to be involved at all levels of the struggle of our people. For us, 1986 must be the year of the rapid escalation of the armed struggle. It must also be a year of greater and deeper involvement of our people in the armed struggle. It should be a year when we are going to solve the problems of entrenching Umkhonto we Sizwe amongst our people.

It is a year when we were tackling the problems of recruiting and training within our own country, so that Umkhonto becomes a peoples army to fight a peoples war. But again [words indistinct] because of our national [words indistinct], namely the escalation of the struggle. We must be seen as the army to be confronting the enemy throughout the length and breadth of our country and we must [words indistinct].

So, we see this anniversary of Umkhonto we Sizwe as a time where we as a people's army must take stock of our own situation and ask ourselves a number of important questions. Are we living up to the demands? I think that is an important question that each and every member of Umkhonto we Sizwe should place before himself or herself. It is a year, comrades, where we must seize the time. It is a year, comrades, where we must make the movement of the army and the police very, very difficult and it must be a year, comrades, where we must inspire our people with a hope that victory is inevitable and this inspiration must not just be mere rhetoric.

Our people in the townships, our people in the countryside must see with their own eyes Umkhonto units delivering blows against the enemy, against the SADF and against the police. Our people must see that we are making the farmers unable to continue with their normal lives. Our people must see us moving into white areas to attack enemy personnel, our people must see us responding to this growing crescendo of violence by the enemy.

Our people must place squarely their hope in Umkhonto we Sizwe and our people must participate in this process of making us a people's army by ensuring that the best cadres, that the best elements among students, among secondary school students, high school students, amongst the working youth, among trade unionists join Umkhonto we Sizwe and become part of Umkhonto we Sizwe. Because, comrades, I believe Umkhonto we Sizwe will become a better army when the social composition of Umkhonto we Sizwe should also indicate clearly that the trade unionists, that the workers are not only participating but that some of them are commanders, commissars and chiefs of staff of this army.

[Announcer] Comrade Chris, comrade commissar, since the eruption of the (?Fal) uprising in 1984, our people have embarked on powerful mass action such as the 1984 November stay-away, the May 1st action, the June 16th national general strike, the day of action which was called to demand release of trade unionists from detention immediately after the state of emergency and other actions, including the now recent one, the stay-away in Soweto. Now what could you say were the successed and weaknesses of these actions and what lessons can be drawn from them?

[Hani] Well, the successes, comrade, lie in the fact that our people in ever-(?growing) numbers responded to the calls of the mass democratic movement and trade unions to stay away. This was a magnificent thing. But the significance of this lies in the fact that it has been repeated several times, as [words indistinct] indicate, started in 1985 after the (Fal) uprising, it was followed up by significant stay-at-homes in the (Peterbridge) area, in the eastern Cape, the western Cape and Natal. From 1984 to 1986, our people have engaged the enemy using the strike as one of the methods of confronting the racist regime and as I say in terms of numbers, millions of our people have participated in the strikes.

The estimates, for instance, (?of the state), in terms of numbers of the participation of the people in the 16th June commemoration this year was more than 2 million in May more than 1.5 million. These are the conservative estimates of the bourgeois media. So, more and more workers if you were to go back from 1984, have been participating in stay-at-homes. I don't think it would be wrong to say precisely that of our people from 1984 to 1986 they have participated in a number of stay-at-homes and I think this is the significance of these stay-at-homes. These are the struggle, these are signs of the growing political and black consciousness. The lines are drawn. The masses are aware that they are together on one side fighting for their freedom and social emancipation against the enemy.

The masses have identified, clearly identified their enemy as the ruling class and the capitalists and employers [words indistinct]. In other words [words indistinct] some stay-at-homes, for instance, have been called by the mass democratic organizations, sometimes without calling the trade unions to participate except just to inform that comrades we are embarking on a strike. A strike [words indistinct] is a serious weapon and should be treated seriously.

Therefore, it demands that the participants, the participants to sit down together look at this weapon, so as to make this weapon effective, examine the loopholes so as to ensure that the weapon must achieve (?results). [Words indistinct] because for the masses, this is a process of political education. It must ensure that there is enough propaganda (?on hand), through leaflets. And no one organization can tackle all the problem. It is important that all the organizations involved in the democratic struggle [word indistinct] should consult, should sit together, should plan, should see how they implement and how they monitor programs.

Initially, the proposal might come from COSATU, UDf or whatever organization, but once they take the decision, that decision must be placed before the natural allies of this democratic struggle and we know who are the natural allies of this democratic struggle so that we move together in one formation and (?new discipline) and [word indistinct], and I would think the weaknesses sometimes have been due to the fact that there has been sometimes a lack of consultation and planning together and we in the ANC believe that all those organizations, serious organizations, democratic organizations should sit down together, plan together, monitor together, implement together in order to achieve good, maximum results.

[Announcer] Comrade Chris Hani also went on to explain the role of white democrats in this liberation struggle, stating that rhetoric alone is not enough, they must regard this liberation struggle as their own struggle as well.

[Hani] Our call to the white people [word indistinct]. The whites must join with us. Of course, this struggle has got many dimensions. There is the mass militant struggle. The whites must get out of Parliament. They must cast aside the illusion that changes will come from that white Parliament. They must join the extra-parliamentary struggle. (?In addition), they must join the campaigns of the UDF and campaigns of COSATU. They must take part in the process of mobilizing the whites to be an integral part of the mass struggle.

The young ones must join Umkhonto we Sizwe and fight together with us to overthrow white domination. A few have already taken this important and significant step. Some of them have already been sentenced, others you see are on trial and we think those few are an important catalyst and their example has got to be followed by many others. We applaud and we congratulate those whites who are refusing to serve in the SADF and their numbers are growing.

But this (?shouldn't) just be a passive form of struggle. They must find their way to Umkhonto we Sizwe. They must find their way into the underground of the ANC. They must find their way in the mobilization of the white workers into joining the progressive and democratic trade unions in our country.

[Announcer] Comrade Chris, some people say that speaking about parliamentary struggle that parliament has lost its meaning in South Africa, that the regime is slowly becoming a militarist regime ruled by [words indistinct]. What is your opinion?

[Hani] I would agree with that assessment. Parliament has lost most of its power. And I think that (?in one of the) recent examples you find: When Botha and Le Grange could not have their way with the security laws they passed, they wanted to pass in order to crush the commemoration of 16 June, they resorted to the Presidential Council. In other words, they passed certain edicts, avoiding Parliament, evading Parliament completely. It is incredible that Botha has got such despotic and unlimited powers in his hands.

In other words, even the limited democracy, bourgeois democracy that the whites have enjoyed for many years is being whittled away and the State Security Council has become the body which takes the important decisions in running that country. So the whites in our country, they have really lost whatever rights they exercised through the white Parliament. The white Parliament has just become a [word indistinct]. Botha decides which decision he should accept and which he should reject. He is surrounded by the military branch and by the police. He is surrounded by Magnus Malan, John Coetzee and a number of generals. These are the people really who are running the country today.

[Announcer] And what do you think about this recent development where the courts have challenged the state of emergency and Botha being able to override the Constitution and reimpose the laws of [word indistinct]?

[Hani] [Words indistinct] even the judges within the past have been quite acquiescent in dishing out the most (?tough) sentences against our people. They have kept quiet and have allowed unjust laws to be enacted, serious laws which (?axe) the freedom of the people of South Africa, serious laws which prevented our people from organizing. [Words indistinct] which banned our movement. But even those judges who have been [words indistinct] are beginning, some of them are beginning to feel that the regime is going too far in interfering even with what they consider themselves [words indistinct]

They see Botha now bulldozing his way into, (?dancing) his way [words indistinct]. Because you see these are the fellows, they have got some sense of justice, not your sense of justice or my sense of justice, but South Africa now is even going beyond the pale. It is casting to the ground, you see, even the last vestiges of the justice understood by bourgeois democracy all over the world and I think these judges are protesting. But knowing that government, it is going to ignore these protests.

Some judges have even said that the state president is exceeding his power. But Botha has got a way of, you know, just pushing aside. He is an extremely autocratic man. He is a dictator and dictators have never been known to respect justice, but it is interesting for us that there have been some brave judges who feel that South Africa is a police state. I have always said South Africa is a police state but our view now is being endorsed by some respected members of the judiciary.

[Announcer] Do you think that this development will be quite notable and important for the National Statutory Council that Botha is talking about?

[Hani] Well, the National Statutory Council is really (?stillborn). It can't be formed, it depends on black collaboration. Botha is in trouble. He cannot find these moderates. Where are these moderates? He has been cooing and singing about moderates for the last six months. He has been speaking about the silent majority and about the radical minority which has got to be crushed. But we are asking him, where is your majority? Where are your moderates? So this National Statutory Council cannot be formed. Because [words indistinct] and those black collaborators he would want to participate there, they will have to face serious problems.

[Announcer] But Gatsha has expressed readiness to participate if Nelson Mandela is released and participates.

[Hani] Well, he has expressed that willingness to participate. I think he is just using Comrade Nelson Mandela to justify his backpeddling. I think when he said he was ready to participate, he was just making that statement not realizing the depth of opposition to any form of collaboration with the present government. There is no way Comrade (Zake) our people are going to collaborate with Botha. Botha cannot preside over changes in our country. He is responsible for the problems we are facing. Botha must go. He is just wasting time by, you know, (?thrashing) out solutions. He cannot solve anything. He is responsible for the mess in our country. We say Botha should go. People like Gatsha Buthelezi are wasting their time by participating in Botha's futile experiments, because the majority of our people are rejecting those experiments. Supposing Mandela is released, Mandela won't participate in the National Statutory Council. No member of the ANC will ever participate in that National Statutory Council. The majority of our people won't participate. Gatsha will be alone there. He will be isolated [words indistinct]. He will be driving those beautiful cars and getting a fat salary, but he will just be doing it as an individual. And he must be careful of the verdict of our people and our people have been known to pass the right verdict against anybody who collaborates with that regime.

Public Support Against ANC Terrorism Noted

MB150938 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Station commentary: "Terrorism"]

[Text] With the approach of the festive season, there will be no doubt still be an escalation of ANC terrorism in South Africa. This is a period in which the ANC invariably exploits the holiday atmosphere to intensify and dramatize this most cowardly dimension of its activities.

The SAP and public are ready for it. That the police have maintained their record in this particular year is especially significant. This year marks the 25th anniversay of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], the section formed by the ANC with the express purpose of engaging in acts of terrorism. As a result, the organization declared 1986 to be the year of Umkhonto we Sizwe; a year in which it proposed to pursue the strategy of terrorist violence on a vast scale throughout the country.

In fact, there was a substanital increase in the number of incidents — more than 200 up to October. But, in its real objective — engulfing the country in a continuous wave of terrorism — the ANC failed completely. This was partly due to police successes in tracking down arms caches. Another obvious factor has been the high success rate in catching those responsible for acts of terrrorism. In fact, all but a few of the [words indistinct] cases have already been solved. More than 100 suspected terrorists have been arrested and 48 have died in shootouts with the police.

It is important that terrorists should know that they will not get away with their crimes, and that message is conveyed very clearly by the statistics. A police spokesman has pointed that such a record would not have been possible were it not for the exceptionally high level of cooperation from members of the public. In South Africa, that support is widespread among all communities.

KwaNdebele's Chief Minister Dies After Illness

MB171919 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 17 Nov

[Text] The chief minister of KwaNdebele, Mr Simon Sosana, died early this afternoon in a clinic in Pretoria. In a short statement, the government of KwaNdebele says Mr Skosana, who was suffering from diabetes, was admitted to the clinic last Friday. Mr Skosana had not been seen much in public during the past 2 months.

Workers Return, Production Resumes at GM Plant

MB171033 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1020 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Nov 17, SAPA — Police arrested 16 people outside the gates of General Motors this morning as one third of the company's work force, who went on strike earlier this month, went back to work. The 16 were part of a mob of about 200 who had gathered at the main gates as new employees who were appointed late last week to replace 567 dismissed striekrs and a large number of other employees arrived at the plant.

Mr George Stegmann, director of personnel and public affairs at GM, said police stepped in and made the arrests when the crowd ignored warnings to disperse.

Employees attempting to enter the plant were subject to strong verbal intimidation, according to Mr Bob White, managing director of GM. According to an eyewitness, some were threatened with "necklaces" and others were warned that their homes would be burnt down if they went to work.

Police were called to the scene by management this morning in order to ensure the safety of people wishing to return to work and also protect between 170 and 180 new employees who were engaged on Thursday and Friday last week, Mr Stegmann said. He said that although some members of the group which gathered at the gate were identified as General Motors employees, others were not.

More than one third of the 2400 employees who had been on strike since October 29 were back at work today, he said. He believed the numbers would swell once the group at the gates had been removed. There was a steady trickle of workers back to the premises, he said.

Stringent precautions were being taken to protect workers on the premises, he said. "Obviously we don't want our employees to be subjected to pressure. They have every right to work and we are taking all steps to ensure that right," he said. "We have approached community leaders for support, but outside of the work situation there is really nothing we can do to protect them."

Mr Stegmann said that 200 of the 567 workers dismissed last week had submitted applications for re-employment. These were being processed, he said. GM management said this morning that workers who had not returned to work by 9 am tomorrow morning would be dismissed.

Mr White said production had been resumed this morning "after a fashion." Taking into consideration the number of employees and new employees who required training, it would be some time before the company could effect full prodcution, he said.

COSATU Committee Condemns 'Arrogant' GM Actions

MB171240 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1214 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 17, SAPA — The Council [as received] of South African Trade Unions central executive committee condemns the "arrogant and high-handed actions" of General Motors management.

In a statement issued today, the committee said it condemned GM's refusal to negotiate, the use of dirty tactics and for calling in the security forces.

They said it was clear that the original GM management did not make provision to protect its workers rights during the takeover proceedings "which were conducted behind the backs of workers."

The committee said it called on all progressive organisations in South Africa and abroad to condemn GM's "deplorable and anti-democratic actions."

They further demanded that the company negotiates all issues with workers, reinstate all dismissed workers on full pay and accede to all demands of workers.

These demands are that if companies are to pull out of South Africa or sell their businesses, they must give timely notice to union workers; they must provide full details of their plans; they must provide adequate information to allow workers and their organisations to make a decision on their future; and terms of withdrawal must be negotiated with the following conditions;

— A guarantee that no retrenchments or redundancies will occur from withdrawal or sale;

— The new bosses must agree to negotiate with union representatives issues affecting workers;

— The departing company must guarantee munimum severance pay of a months pay per year of service;

— The departing company must guarantee that no benefits will be prejudiced by withdrawal or sale for a period of 12 months; and

— The company must guarantee full earnings.

The committee said these demands were not a statement against disinvestment, but reflected workers concern that companies intending to leave negotiate with workers through their trade union about their future.

COSATU Condemns Attack on MAWU Meeting

MB171226 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1158 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Durban Nov 17 SAPA — The Metal and Allied Workers Union [MAWU] has launched an investigation into the incident which left at least six members injured and one dead outside Curries Fountain, Durban, on Saturday. This was confirmed by the Natal branch secretary, Mr Ian Weir, who today disputed the version given by the Bureau for Information of the violence which erupted at the end of a national meeting. According to the bureau, one policeman was injured when a brick was thrown into a vehicle.

Two Swedish trade unionists from the International Metalworkers Federation witnessed the clash.

"We have started a collection of statements from our members who were caught up in the incident," said Mr Weir. [passage omitted]

The Council [as received] of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] said in a statement today that they condemned the violent attack on "unarmed and defenceless" workers attending the MAWU annual general meeting. "The unprovoked attack came after a day of disciplined and democratic proceedings, in the best tradition of COSATU and the progressive trade union movement in South Africa," said the statement. COSATU said it viewed the violence as an attack on democracy. COSATU said it would support MAWU in any action they took in response to the attack.

P.W. Botha Issues Statement on SACBC Meeting

MB171801 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1756 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 17, SAPA — The SA Catholic Bishops Conference [SACBC] delegation which met the state president, MR P.W. Botha, today were — in the words of the pope — priests and not social or political leaders, Mr Botha said today.

Archbishop Denis Hurley, who led the six-man SACBC delegation to meet Mr Botha and senior cabinet ministers, said at a press conference afterwards their pleas for rapid movement away from the "main pillars" of apartheid had "fallen on deaf ears."

In a statement tonight, the state president said he had pointed out "during a frank discussion" that the SACBC's newspaper, the *"New Nation"* was "a dangerous one, and unworthy of the Roman Catholic Church."

He requested the SACBC to "get their house in order in the interests of the church."

Mr Botha had then referred the delegation to an address by Pope John Paul II in Guadelupe in 1981, in which the head of the Catholic Church had said:

"You are priests, and religious, you are not social or political leaders or officials of temporal power. Let us not be under the illusion that we are serving the Gospel if we dilute our charisma through our exaggerated interest in the wide field of temporal problems.

"It is important for people to see you as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God."

Mr Botha said he called on the SACBC representatives "to realise the necessity of an atmosphere of deliberation and to contribute towards its promotion in this country."

"With a view to this it is necessary that violence be condemned, especially if it is incited under communist leadership."

Mr Botha said he had expressed the hope "that discussions of this nature be continued in future," and that the SACBC delegates had agreed with him.

19.7 Percent Inflation; Second Highest Since 1920

MB150940 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Inflation is apparently at its second highest level in almost 60 years. The United's [United Building Society] economic monitor says inflation now stands at 19.7 percent, the second highest level since 1920. The monitor says the rate was pushed up by the weak rand during the first half of the year. Also contributing to the higher rate are a 22.3 percent rise in fruit prices and a 45 percent hike in the prices of cars.

Newest Nuclear Power Plant Opens in Cape Town

MB141305 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] South Africa can expect more nuclear power stations in the future. The chairman of ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] says other sources than coal have to be looked at for the generation of power and uranium he says is more efficient. The Koberg nuclear power station near Cape Town was inaugurated last night and, while speaking at the ceremony, the ESCOM chairman gave no indication where or when new nuclear stations will be built. South Africa has been threatened with expulsion from the International Atomic Energy Agency for refusing to allow inspection of its nuclear facilities.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB150942 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English 14-20 Nov 86 p 4

[Text] **1986 Detentions**

Today is the 156th day of the current State of Emergency. The government has refused to release the numbers or names of all those detained under the Emergency regulations.

According to the latest report of the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC), over 24,000 people are estimated to have been detained during 1986 so far. More than 20,000 of that number are believed to have been detained under the current Emergency regulations.

It was stated in parliament that between January 1 and August 31, 1986, 299 people were detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, 132 of them since the Emergency was declared on June 12. Seventy-one people were detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act during the same period. At the end of August, 153 people were being held under Section 19 of the Internal Security Act.

A further 631 people were detained between January and March under the previous Emergency regulations and by September, at least 232 people had been detained under the security legislation of the "independent homelands".

Wrongful Arrest and Police Assault

James Self of the Progressive Federal Party's research unit has reported that in 1984 the Minister of Law and Order, Louis le Grange, was faced with 69 cases of wrongful arrest and assault; an amount of R83,874.61 was paid in out-of-court settlements. Nine out of 69 cases were withdrawn. Eleven of the cases related to unlawful arrests and 11 of the claims for assault involved alleged assaults in police custody. During the same year, at least 34 cases were brought against the Minister of Justice and R34,978.25 was paid out.

In 1985 there were 137 lawsuits against the Minister of Law and Order. Eighty-eight of these were settled out of court and the Minister had to pay a total of R146,668.14. Twentny-nine persons claimed they were assaulted by police, while 29 claimed unlawful arrest. In 46 cases, R21,177 was paid out by the Minister of Justice.

Military Strength

The latest annual report of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS], reports that South Africa has 106,400 people in its armed forces, including 64,000 national servicemen. In addition it has a further 167,000 active reserves and 150,000 people serving in the National Reserve — meaning that South Africa has a total of 423,400 in its armed forces and reserves, according to the IISS.

The report estimates that Umkhonto We Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], the military wing of the African National Congress, has "perhaps" 10,000 trained guerrillas and that SWAPO's strength is around 8,900.

Strikes

The minister of Manpower, Pietie du Plessis, said that between January and September this year there had been 499 strikes, compared with 389 during the whole of last year. He said 230,000 workers had been involved and nearly 777,000 man-days had been lost.

Standard of Living

According to a recent study by the Actuarial Society of South Africa, only five to 10 percent of the "homeland" population can make a living from agriculture. The rural communities are largely dependent on migrant remittances and old age pensions, which average R40 a month, and there are frequent delays because of administrative corruption and inefficiency.

The report says that 89 percent of South African households earn less than R1,400 a month and 56 percent receive less than R400 a month and 40 percent earn less than the official minimum subsistence level of R280 per month.

The report estimates that only 4.7-million people are involved in conventional employer-employee relationships or are self-employed. In all, 8.7-million South Africans with 20.1-million dependents are in the cash economy, many on a part-time or occasional baisis, the report estimates.

The society estimates that about 2.8-million "potential workers" are unemployed and that 4.5-million are either unemployed or underemployed. They estimate that by the year 2000 this figure will grow to 8.1-million.

Prisoner of Conscience

Jacob Mtshali, 25, Alexandra Youth Congress (AYCO) general secretary and United Democratic Front national administrative secretary, was detained under the Emergency regulations on September 17 this year and is still being held.

Mtshali first became politically active at the time of the 1976 uprising in Soweto. Later, as a high school student in Alexandra, he was involved with the formation of the now-banned Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

In 1973 when AYCO was launched he was elected the first general secretary, a position he has held ever since. Later that year he played an active role in the launching of the UDF and has since served on the UDF Johannebsurg Area Committee and the UDF Transvaal General Council. After finishing school he worked in several jobs and in April last year was employed by the UDF as the administrative secretary in its national office.

This is Mtshali's fourth period of detention and he has spent nearly 12 of the last 16 months in detention without trial. He was detained for the full nine months of the last Emergency and shortly after his release he was arrested, charged with public violence and found not guilty. A month after his release there was an assassination attempt on his life. Shots were fired at his house but he escaped unscathed.

When the latest Emergency was declared he went into hiding but was detained two months ago after being involved in a motor accident.

Banned Books, Publications and Objects

Isizwe — The Nation Vol 1 No 3 (UDF, Cape Town); *When Will They Stop* (UDF, Cape Town); *Workers Unity* No. 59, 60, 61, 98 (SACTU); A negro woman posing in the nude — poster (Not stated); *Bolt No. 18 Queen of Hearts* (Niel Herman); F—ck all that is missing is U, Oral Sex is a matter of taste and I really appreciate your criticism — f—ck you very much (unstated); Care newsletter No. 78 July 1986 (Care National); *Workers Press* June 28 1986 (Extrasearch Ltd London); *Socialist Worker* Nos. 993 and 1003, June and September 1986 (Larkham Printers and Publishers Ltd, London); *Workers Power* No. 85 July/August 1986 (Workers Power, BCM London): *Spare Rib* No. 170, September 1986 (Spare Rib London).

The following books have been unbanned for possession but are still banned for distribution and importation: Nelson *Mandela — The Struggle Is My Life* (Nelson Mandela); *Torment to Triumph in Southern Africa* (Louise Stack and Don Norton); *The African Liberation Reader Vols 1-3 — The Anatomy of Colonialism, the National Liberation Movements and The Strategy of Liberation.*

Unbanned for Distribution:

Camera Weekly vol 7 No. 21, September 20 1986 (Haymarket Publishing Company); *Communism and the Bible* (Jose Miranda); *A Swelling Place of Our Own* (Randolph Vigne) and *Namibia* (Winifred Nachtwei).

Information Bureau Issues 18 Nov Unrest Report

MB180832 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0806 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 18 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest situation report for the 24 hours to 6 am today:

"In Katlehong (Germiston) a group of black persons attacked a security force foot patrol with petrol bombs and stones. The patrol warded off the attack with birdshot, wounding one man in the leg. No arrests were made.

"An explosive device was detonated outside the Phehello Secondary School in Kutlwanong (Odendaalsrus) yesterday. Damage of about R2000 was caused and no one was injured. The type of explosive used has not yet been identified.

"A few other unrest related incidents were reported in the rest of the country involving mainly the throwing of petrol bombs and stones at private homes and vehicles. Little damage was caused and in one incident involving a delivery vehicle, two black youths were arrested."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB180657 [Editorial report]

THE CITIZEN on GM Worker Strike

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 15 November says the General Motors (GM) affair has taken a sickly turn." The paper points out that "if the workers supported disinvestment, they can hardly complain if GM pulled out under pressure of disinvestment. If they didn't care whether they lost their jobs because of disinvestment or sanctions, it is surprising that they now want both jobs and severance pay." The strike is making it "harder" for the new company to keep the local operation going. If GM is forced to switch its plants from the eastern Cape to the North, then that will be the end of the "volatile, undisciplined and strike and boycott-crazy Eastern Cape," and "the losers will be the Black workers themselves."

THE STAR on Group Areas Act

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 17 November says in a page 12 editorial: "Central to the great separation myth which dominated political life in this country for so long was the belief that friction would be minimised if racial groups were kept apart. Researchers from Rand Afrikaans University have laid the myth in a study of the so-called grey areas of Johannesburg. They conclude that experience of interracial contact seems to promote 'a greater propensity to sharing amenities and services.'" The findings show that the races can live together, although certain categories of whites find adapting to a new social order more difficult. They can become "'socially and politically alienated.'" *The Star* says if people are prepared to share residential areas, then the Group Areas Act must go.

Tricameral System Losing Popularity

A second editorial on the same page says the first by-election held since the establishment of the House of Delegates two year ago, indicates that "the tricameral parliamentary system is, if anything, less popular now than at its inception. Certainly, the level of voter participation is so low as to raise serious doubts whether the dully elected MP really represents his constituency." "Parliamentary government can enjoy the respect it deserves only when it had the confidence of the people."

RSA in a Downhill Slide

On the same page Dr Franz Auerbach says that it is difficult to "be aware of how fast we are rolling downhill. In a different climate, the abolition of the pass laws and of influx control and the higher gold and platinum prices would have boosted South Africa's morale." But Auerbach points out among other things: the civil unrest; rent boycotts; education crisis; unemployment and inflation; sanctions; security and emergency law detentions which "this year have been estimated at an average of 84 a day. Many men, women and children have been kept in solitary confinement for prolonged periods." "How much deeper must we slide into anarchy before citizens persuade the Government to take the kind of action the EPG [Eminent Persons Group] discussed in May?"

Coloreds, Indians Join PFP

"The Progressive Federal Party has continued to put into practice its policy to be a non-racial party following the scrapping of the Political Interference Act," says Tos Wentzel on the same page. "But the recruitment of people of colour as members of the party remains a sensitive issue, especially in the present state of emergency." However, "thousands of people of colour" have become members of the PFP. The PFP federal council has "found its coloured and Indian supporters are not opposed to the PFP being in the Assembly, as they feel all should be represented there, but they are opposed to its being in the Representatives and the Delegates which they regard as artificial creations of the apartheid system."

Motor Industry Hopes for Increased Black Demand

"One of the fundamental myths of the motor industry — that it will one day be dragged from the brink of disaster by black consumer demand — is in danger of being exploded," says a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 17 November. The paper notes that there are "seven major manufacturers waiting in the wings for the day that their patience will be rewarded by a surge in black spending. That day may never come — or, at best, remains many years off. With 260,000 cars in South Africa registered by blacks, of which only 35,000 were bought new, the motor industry clearly has a major problem." *Business Day* believes that the black market has not yet "burgeoned" because of "the years of political, social and economic mismanagement by Pretoria that has led us to this condition."

CAPE TIMES on Group Areas Act

"It looks as if economic factors rather than political ones will finally scuttle the Group Areas Act. For it is clear that the economy, and the desparate scarcity of black housing, is largely responsible for the rapidly changing character of South Africa's inner city suburbs, particularly Johannesburg's," says Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 14 November in a page 6 editorial. The paper says a study by Rand Afrikaans University reveals that the majority of whites in Johannesburg's flatland are "willing to share the area with other race groups, though some of this group felt it should be allowed without repealing the Group Areas Act completely. Possibly they see retention of the Act as a kind of backstop, should residential integration go horribly wrong."

Western Aid to Counter Sanctions

On the same page John Battersby says in the "London Dateline" column that "the rather bland term 'positive measures' has become the core of the British and European Community's counter-strategy to sanctions. It is a term to cover a wide range of multilateral Western aid and investment programmes aimed at improving the living conditions and the education and training of black South Africans." Battersby says there is a growing realization among the proponents of the Marshall aid package of the "acutely sensitive diplomacy needed to win both the support of the South African government and black opposition for such programmes. The dilemma is that public government support guarantees black rejection. But then such deals are not concluded in public and with the necessary discretion it should be possible to get a private government nod and negate public reactions." "The government's willingness to dismantle apartheid and negotiate a non-racial constitutional with representative black leaders would be the green light for the Western aid plan."

SOWETAN: Forced Removals Continue

The page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 17 November comments on the relentless "control and regulation" of large numbers of township residents. "While the scrapping of influx control was hailed as a major advance for reform, the White Paper on Urbanisation submitted to Parliament in April this year, provides for subtle and even more intolerable ways of control of blacks via the allocation of land and 'approved accommodation.' " Referring to the removal of Langa township residents to Nobuhle which is "no better" a place, the paper says "the Government might think that by getting the problem out of sight, and more significantly away from white residential areas, it will disappear. This is not only a pipe dream but there is an increase in bitterness and anger. Those serious-minded people who are spending time and money to make projections into a future stable society are seriously hampered by such acts."

DIE VADERLAND on Machel Crash

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 14 November comments on the allegation that the Machel plane was deviated off course by South Africa, saying "unfortunately we cannot dismiss the hysteria and venom because it is so groundless, conceited and without truth." *Die Transvaler* notes that so far "the authorities which are linked to this case have not put a foot wrong. This includes their reactions to the crash, the handling of evidence such as blood samples, the important deceased, the survivors and the black box. This scrupulousness should be maintained."

BEELD: USSR Blames RSA for Machel Crash

On page 8 of Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 15 November the "From My Political Pen" column says that "sooner or later it had to happen that the Russian Government would blame South Africa for the death of President Samora Machel." The column notes that the Russians are involved in the investigation which is not completed yet. "To mount conspiracies against other countries and individuals, so-called clandestine acts, has become part of the governing pattern of many countries. Especially Russia, through the KGB, and America, through the CIA, are masters in this field." "An investigation that would reveal that the crash was caused by negligence on the part of the Russian crew or obsolete equipment in the plane, would be an ugly reflection on the Russians. So South Africa becomes the victim of a disinformation campaign which makes one wonder how much attention the results of the investigation are going to receive, if they are going to tell another story."

THE NAMIBIAN on Appeal of Rights

"The fact that the interim government has resorted to the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein to prove the invalidity of its own Bill of Rights has caused waves of astonishment in Namibian circles," says the page 12 editorial in Windhoek *The Namibian* in English on 14 November. "The fact that they are contesting the Supreme Court's rulings in these matters confirms the often expressed suspicion that their Bill of Fundamental Rights and Objectives was merely intended as 'window-dressing' for the international community, rather than being valid and enforceable legislation." The paper notes that it was "at the insistence" of the Multi-Party Conference that the Bill of Rights was incorporated into Proclamation R101 of the South African State President, "installing that same government. Who are they trying to fool?"

Botha Dictating to Interim Government

In her "Political Perspective" column on page 11 Gwen Lister says "South Africa, and Mr P.W. Botha, State President, in particular, certainly do want to 'dictate things' in Namibia, and their control is not merely restricted to the portfolios of foreign affairs and defence, as members of the interim government are well aware." "They quite obviously want a government which is broadly based enough to attract at least some international acceptance; and yet is still sufficiently dependent on South Africa for her to continue to call the shots." Lister believes that when the Multi-Party Conference met as a group they should have drafted a constitution to present to the South African Government. "Unfortunately, however, they accepted the reins of government without having a combined platform or policy, and this is perhaps the ultimate reasons for their failure as a government. For now Mr Botha is in a position to dictate the pace; knowing that while he insists on the retention of so called minority rights, however much they may protest, they will not resign from the government or relinquish their seats of power."

RAPPORT Calls for Unity Against Onslaught

"Internationally, South Africa remains caught in a phase of naked hate, childishness and demonstration," says a page 32 editorial in Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on 16 November. "We will have to survive this without degrading ourselves, and we should handle it with bravado." The fact that South Africa and all its people "are suffering under the onslaught calls for joint action and resistance against it." *Rapport* believes that the "time is ripe for more noticeable alliances and groups in South Africa. Despite differences in political emphasis and power basis there are central issues where consensus is possible."

RSA Will Not Be Cornered

A second editorial on the same page says that "there is a strategy to try to press South Africa into a corner and to strangle it slowly but surely. Even yesterday's friends are participating, not to talk of one's enemies." The paper says that if they believe that South Africa is small enough and "needs only be pressured hard enough for it to give in," then they are making a "fatal miscalculation." "Hopefully they will realize, before it is too late, that South Africa will fight back like an injured animal if its continued existence is at stake." *Rapport* also warns that theen the country will "not play according to the rules."

ZAMBIA

Tanzanian Talks Urge Alternate Cargo Routes

MB141647 Dakar PANA in English 1635 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Lusaka, 14 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — Zambia and Tanzania have been urged to establish an alternative and supplementary cargo carrier to the Tanzania/Zambia Railways Authoritiy (Tazara) in order to brace against possible sabotage to the railway line by racist South Africa or its agents.

The recommendation is contained in a communique signed today at the end of a series of meetings by the bilateral coordination committee of Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) of Tanzania, and the United National Independence Pa [illegible] eetings started on 12 Nov. Chairman of the political and legal committee of the Central Committee Daniel Lisulo signed on behalf of UNIP while Seif Shariff Hamad, MCC [?member of the Central Committee] and chief minister of Zanzibar, signed on behalf of CCM.

In reviewing the problems which led to the collapse of the defunct Zambia/Tanzania Road Services (ZTRS) the committee recommended that these problems be sorted out prior to the re-establishment of an alternative and supplementary cargo carrier. Considering the strategic and economic importance of the jointly owned ventures such as Tazara, Tazama Pipelines Limited and ZTRS, not only to both countries but to the southern African region in the wake of mandatory economic sancitons against South Africa, the committee urged both parties to take security precautions very seriously in the event of the enemy sabotaging the vital installations. It further urged both parties to scout around for other sources of assistance in the maintenance and repair of these installations instead of depending on only one source.

To ensure continued smooth operations of the joint economic ventures, the committee wants to see that each party (UNIP and CCM) is directly represented at top policy levels of the economic ventures to guarantee proper policy guidance as well as effective accountability. The committee also recommended that the two parties should have representatives on the Zambia/Tanzania joint permanent commission of co-operation and that the commission should explore other areas of cooperation.

In reviewing the southern African situation, the committee noted that the current political situation was explosive. The committee also took note of the economic hardships that would be faced by countries in the region at the onset of mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa, and pledged their continued support for the liberation struggle being waged by ANC of South Africa and SWAPO of Namibia. It further urged the two liberation movements to intensify the freedom struggle in order to bring the necessary pressure to bear within frontiers of South Africa and Namibia.

ZIMBABWE

Editorial Condemns Reagan Foreign Policy

MB161114 Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 9 Nov 86 p10

[Editorial: "Sordid Record"]

[Excerpts] Twice in as many months the American people have overwhelmingly expressed their understandable disapproval of their president's policies. Last month came the humiliating Congressional reversal of Reagan's veto of the South African sanctions Bill. Last week was the electorate's turn. In the mid-term Congressional elections, the American public delivered yet another blow to the president by giving its votes to the opposition Democrats, placing them firmly in control of Congress.

The world has good reasons to join the American people in their celebration of the defeat and humiliation of a president whose foreign policy is a dangerous threat to world peace and a negation of almost everything that successive American administrations have stood for in foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

We in this part of the world have not fared any better. We have witnessed much more than the thoroughly discredited "constructive engagement" policy towards the racist regime in Pretoria. Jonas Savimbi, the South African-sponsored bandit leader in Angola, not only enjoys Reagan's official support, but has actually been received by the American president at the White House.

Angola's crime is simply that it accepted assistance from socialist countries in its national effort to repel racist South African aggression! This must be an affront to many Americans and they have said so through their vote.

On the vexed question of Namibia and racist South Africa proper, the President had to be dragged kicking and screaming into line over the sanctions matter by an angry Congress. Americans had to be — and be seen to be — on the side of justice and responsible leadership behaviour in world affairs.

Here at home the flow of American development aid has been stopped. Our government committed a cardinal sin by telling President Reagan something like: Zimbabwe looks at the world through its own lenses, it has a foreign policy and that policy will always be made in Harare.

There were no howls of anguish in this country because of Reagan's intolerance and political pettiness. For it is not just the power of principle which inspires and guides our prime minister in his resolve to stand up to bullies. He is one with the people he leads in a solemn resolve never to allow our independence and national sovereignty to become cheap negotiable concepts.

The Reagan trail can be followed to all over the world — Middle East, Asia and the Far East. But is to the American people we must look for action to stop this dangerous crusade.

Regional Situation Discussed With Danish Minister

MB171747 Dakar PANA in English 1649 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Harare, 17 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — The volatile political climate being created by the Pretoria regime in the Southern Africa region demands the world's courageous, unequivocal and swift response, the Zimbabwean minister of foreign affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende said here today.

Welcoming his Danish counterpart, Mr Uffe Ellemann-Jensen at a luncheon in the capital, the minister charged that the abominable bully had gone so far as effecting economic strangleholds on independent neighbouring states.

We in this region have had to pay a colossal price for defying the Pretoria regime's quest for regional hegemony, he said appealing to the international community for increased support to liberation movements fighting to dismantle apartheid.

He noted that the Nordic countries had assumed a critical position towards the reprehensible system and that Denmark had gone so far as to discourage its companies from trading with hSouth Africa: These are truly positive and commendable moves, he added.

On the global frontier, the minister said it was common knowledge that nuclear arsenals were in excess of amounts necessary for self-defence and that the superpowers were threatening the human race with annihilation.

We, like all other non-nuclear nations must have a say to demand that nuclear weapons must be liquidated from this earth as they must never be introduced into space ... we (?just) demand our right to life.

An equally sympathetic Mr Jensen retorted by restricting his comments to the southern African situation and declared as vain all persuasive measures to have the Pretoria regime dismantle its racial policies.

It has become increasingly clear to the outside world that only one policy holds out the prospect of a peaceful transition in South Africa: increased pressure.

Early this year Denmark took what he called the most far-reaching measures ever to be taken by a Western country when it decided to introduce a total trade boycott with South Africa.

We now see it as our obligation to work in all fora in order to influence and convince other countries to join us in a concerted international action against apartheid, the Danish foreign minister said.